

Eastern Illinois University

## The Keep

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The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

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10-1994

## Volume 23, Number 5

Post Amerikan

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Yippie! Our 200th Issue! Fun Anniversary Stuff Inside!



# POST AMERIKAN



BLOOMINGTON/NORMAL

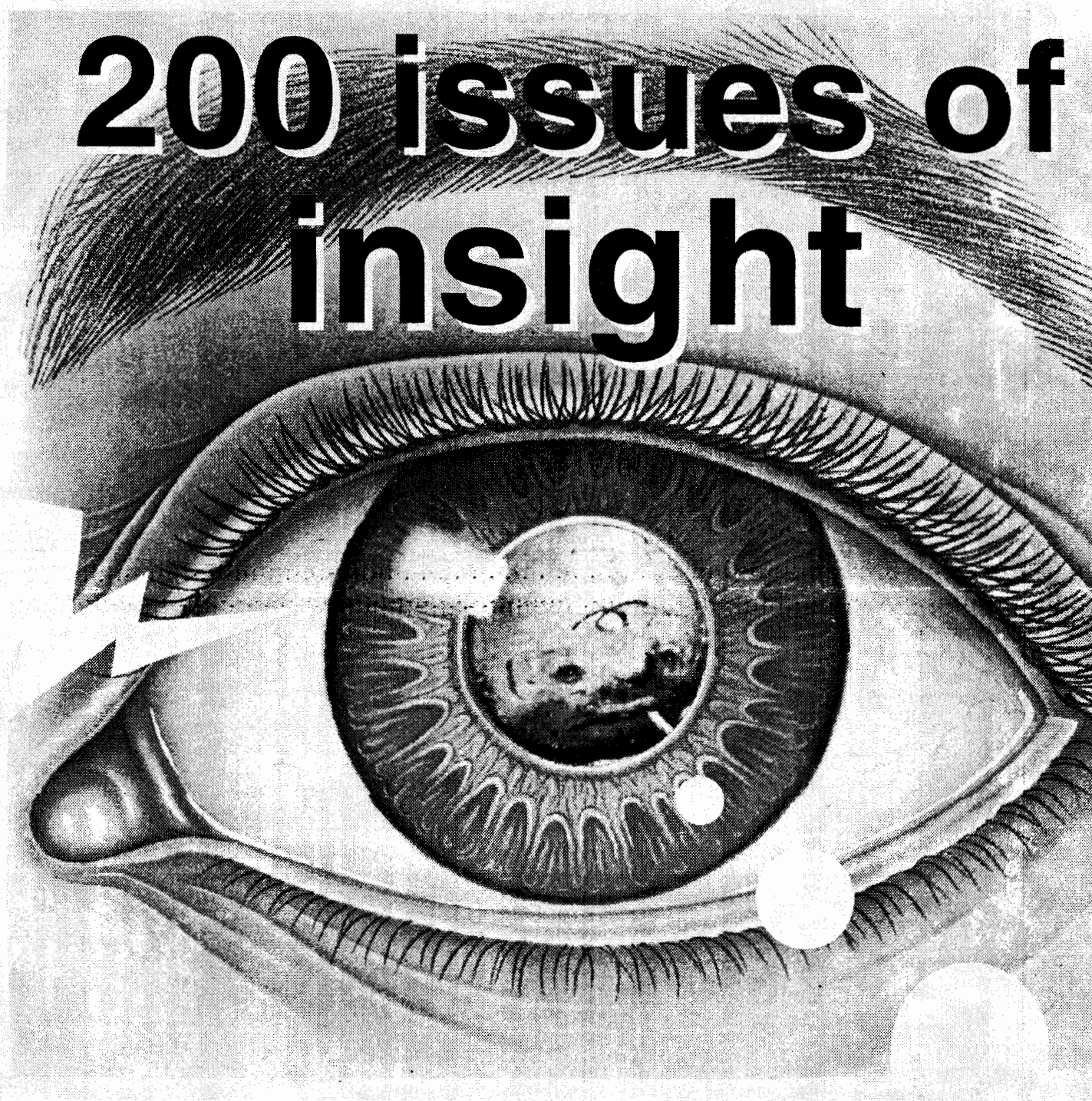
VOL. 23

50¢

NO. 5

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1994

## 200 issues of insight



**T**he *Post Amerikan* is celebrating its 200th issue! Peel back the cover and enjoy reviews of TV programs and local art exhibits, letters, prognostication, and our conscientious political updates! The *Post Amerikan*—like an old friend... with a big mouth.

BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 168  
BLOOMINGTON, IL 61702

ADDRESS CORRECTION  
POST AMERIKAN  
POST OFFICE BOX 3452  
BLOOMINGTON, IL 61702



# PAGE 2



BLOOMINGTON/NORMAL

VOL. 23

NO. 5

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1994

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## About us

The *Post Amerikan* is an independent community newspaper providing information and analysis that is screened out of or down played by establishment news sources. We are a non-profit, worker-run collective that exists as an alternative to the corporate media.

We put out six issues a year. Staff members take turns as "coordinator." All writing, typing, editing, graphics, photography, pasteup, and distribution are done on a volunteer basis. You are invited to volunteer your talents.

Most of our material and inspiration for material comes from the community. The *Post Amerikan* welcomes stories, graphics, photos, letters, and new tips from our readers. If you'd like to join us, call 828-7232 and leave a message on our answering machine. We will get back to you as soon as we can. Don't worry if it takes a while—we don't meet every week.

An alternative newspaper depends directly on a community of concerned people for existence. We believe it is very important to keep a newspaper like this around. If you think so too, then please support us by telling your friends about the paper, donating money to the printing of the paper, and telling our advertisers you saw their ad in *Post Amerikan*.

## What's your new address?

When you move, be sure to send us your new address so your subscription gets to you. Your *Post Amerikan* will not be forwarded (it's like junk mail—no kidding!). Fill out this handy form with your new address and return it to us, P. O. Box 3452, Bloomington, IL 61702.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## Post sellers

### Bloomington

The Back Porch, 402 N. Main (inside)  
Bakery Bank, 901 N. Main  
Bus Depot, 533 N. East  
Circus Video (Emerson and Main)  
Common Ground, 516 N. Main (inside)  
Front and Center Building  
Law and Justice Center, W. Front  
Medusa's, 420 N. Madison (inside)  
The Park Store, Wood and Allin (inside)  
Twin City Exchange, 411 N. Main (inside)  
U.S. Post Office, Center and Monroe  
Wash House, 609 N. Clinton

### Normal

Amtrack Station  
Babbitt's Books, 104 N. Street (inside)  
Mother Murphy's, 111 North (inside)  
Subconscious, S. Main

## This issue of *Post Amerikan* is brought to you by . . .

Deborah, Galen, Linda, Ralph, Sherrin,  
Winter & John  
Special thanks to:  
Bill, Deborah W., and Susie

thanks!

## Good numbers

ACLU	454-7223
AIDS Hotlines	
National	1-800-AID-AIDS
Illinois	1-800-243-2437
Local	(309) 827-AIDS
Alcoholics Anonymous	828-7092
Animal Protection League	828-5371
Bloomington Housing Authority	829-3360
Clare House (Catholic workers)	828-4035
Countering Domestic Violence	827-7070
Dept. of Children/Family Services	828-0022
Gay & Lesbian Resource Phoneline	438-2429
Habitat for Humanity	829-0693
HELP (transportation for senior citizens/handicapped)	828-8301
Home Sweet Home Mission	828-7356
IL Dept. of Public Aid	827-4621
IL Lawyer Referral	1-800-252-8916
Incest Survivors Support Group	827-5051
Lighthouse (substance abuse treatment)	827-6026
McLean Co. Center for Human Services	827-5351
McLean Co. Health Dept.	888-5450
McLean Co. Humane Society	663-7387
Mid Central Community Action	829-0691
Mobile Meals	828-8301
Narcotics Anonymous	1-800-779-6178
National Health Care Services/abortion assistance	1-800-322-1622
Normal N.O.R.M.A.L.	432-4761
Occupational Development Center	452-7324
Operation Recycle	829-0691
Parents Anonymous	827-4005
PATH: Personal Assistance Telephone Help	827-4005
Phone Friends	827-4005
Planned Parenthood (medical)	827-4014
(bus/couns/edu)	827-4368
<i>Post Amerikan</i>	828-7232
Prairie State Legal Services	827-5021
Project Oz	827-0377
Rape Crisis Center	827-4005
Safe Harbor Mission (Salvation Army)	829-9476
Sunnyside Neighborhood Center	827-5428
TeleCare (senior citizens)	828-8301
Unemployment comp/job service	827-6237
Voice for Choice	828-3108
Western Avenue Community Center	829-4807
Youth Services of Mid IL	828-7346

## Due Date:

The next deadline for submitting *Post Amerikan* material will be:

Nov. 14



# Community News

## The Clothesline Project: Bearing witness to violence towards women

### What is it?

The Clothesline Project is a visual display of shirts with graphic messages and illustrations that have been designed by women survivors of violence, or by friends, and/or families of survivors. A clothesline may also contain shirts made to honor women who have died as a result of violence. The purpose of this project is to increase awareness of the impact of violence against women, to celebrate a woman's strength to survive, and to provide another avenue for her to courageously break the silence. It also connects women survivors of trauma to other oppressions such as racism, homophobia, and classism.

The project was started by members of the Cape Cod Women's Agenda who, on a fall day in 1990, hung a clothesline bearing 31 colorfully decorated t-shirts across the village green in Hyannis, Massachusetts. WHITE for women who have died as a result of violence. RED, PINK, ORANGE for women who have been raped or sexually assaulted. YELLOW or BEIGE for women who have been battered or assaulted. BLUE or GREEN for women survivors of incest or childhood sexual abuse. PURPLE or LAVENDER for women who have been attacked because of their sexual orientation. Since then, there have been 130 individual Clotheslines formed across the country and internationally. Like the AIDS quilt, the Clothesline Project puts a human face on the statistics. Simply seeing the Clothesline can be a validating experience for a woman who feels isolated and ashamed.

Since its inception, Clothesline Project organizers have been touched and moved by the power of the stories told by the shirts on the lines. Women both nationally and internationally have joined the effort to educate by telling their stories, by hanging their shirts on the line, and by making connections with other survivors. These efforts are critical to individual women's healing process and ultimately, to ending the cycle of violence.

## Blue Moon Fall Schedule

The blue moon is the second full moon occurring in a month-a rare and unusual phenomenon fraught with possibility and excitement. The Blue Moon Coffeehouse brings the Illinois Wesleyan community entertainment presented in a coffeehouse setting. Doors open at 7:00pm. and performances consisting of two sets begin at 8:00pm. Flavored coffees and light pastries, along with a varied venue of acoustic music that span traditional to contemporary folk music, with some reggae and salsa for spice. Entertainment like this is found once in a blue moon and on the campus of Illinois Wesleyan, at the Blue Moon Coffeehouse.

Robert Shannon and the Dorkestra  
Saturday, October 8

Freyda & Acoustic AttaTude  
Saturday, November 12

Catie Curtis  
Saturday, November 19

Deidre McCalla  
Friday, December 2

All shows begin at 8:00

### The Bloomington/Normal Clothesline Project

This year the Women's Coalition has chosen the Clothesline Project as one of its activities. The coalition hopes to make this a community project, by getting women in the B/N area involved in the project. We hope to be able to display the clothesline on campus and in and around B/N during Women's History Month.

### Shirt Making Groups

If you wish to make a shirt in a supportive environment you can come to one of our shirt making groups. Volunteers from the Rape Crisis Center will be present for support. Groups will be held the second Wednesday of each month; October 14th, November 9th, December 14th, January 11th, February 8th, and March 8th. Workshops will run from 8pm until 10pm at the Women's Center, 604 North Main Street, Bloomington.

### We Need Your Help!

We are accepting donations of solid colored women's shirts, acrylic paints, brushes, fabric paints, and fabric markers. Women's Coalition will sponsor group shirt makings throughout the year. If you wish to make a shirt on your own please feel free to do so. Shirts may be dropped off or mailed anonymously. We respect requests for confidentiality. Please drop-off donated and completed shirts and supplies at The Women's Center, 604 North Main Street, Bloomington. For further information, contact Women's Coalition at 438-2947 or Alison at 438-7795.

## Support group offered

The McLean County AIDS Task Force, serving both McLean and Livingston counties, announces support group meetings for all who are or have been a caregiver, family member, friend or significant other to someone living with HIV or AIDS. This group meets each third Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm at the downtown Bloomington office of the Task Force at 313 North Main Street. Those attending will meet with others who will listen and share experiences in caregiving and friendship. There is no charge to attend and registration or membership is not required. Your confidentiality will be respected.

For further information call 827-2437.



## Words Fair

A commemorative reading of William Wantling's poetry and readings by Cecil Giscombe, Jim Plath and Martha Urtreace will take place October 16th from 1-3pm at Franklin Park in Bloomington.



## 'We do the work' now weekly on PBS-47

American workers finally have a news show that documents their daily lives and interests.

"We do the Work," the critically acclaimed series produced in Oakland, California, switches this fall from a monthly to a weekly format.

WTVF-PBS Channel 47 in Peoria, is broadcasting this 26 week series on Saturdays at 4:30 pm, beginning September 10.

Many of the shows have familiar Hollywood faces as guest hosts, along with regular appearances by political humorist Will Durst, both as a commentator and a host.

Source: Union News  
September 1994

### "Pornography and the Media: Images of Violence Against Women"

A Powerful Slide and Lecture Presentation by

Dr. Gail Dines, PhD.

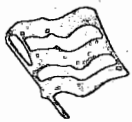
Wednesday, November 2, 1994

The Activities Room  
ISU Bowling and Billiards Center  
(Directly East of the Bone Student Center)

This event was made possible by contributions from: The College of Arts and Sciences, Multi-Cultural Center, Office of Affirmative Action, Office of Undergraduate Instruction, University Forum, Women's Coalition, Women's Studies, Philosophy Department, Sociology and Anthropology, Communications Department, Political Science Department, Red Tassel and Mortarboard, and MECCPAC.

For more information contact 438-2974.





# Continued

**Discontents and Debutantes**  
Paintings by Mike Cockrill & Brian Calvin  
October 4- November 6



*Discontents and Debutantes* features paintings by two artists whose imagery occupies a social interzone between fantasy and taboo, private and public, childhood and adulthood, and personal and media-induced realities. Known since the early 80s for artwork dealing with sex, politics and dysfunctional family life, Cockrill's monumental paintings of girls on the cusp of adolescence exude an ambiguous eroticism that leads us to rethink our views on voyeurism and decorum. A dark humor saturates Calvin's canvases, transforming popular cartoon characters into crusty, pock-marked down-and-outs. This young Chicago artist injects three-dimensional topics like suicide, despair and self-loathing into the banal icons of a two-dimensional, child-friendly realm.

*Discontents and Debutantes*, featuring figurative paintings by New York artist Mike Cockrill and Chicago artist Brian Calvin, opens on Tuesday, October 4th at University Galleries in the Main Gallery. The exhibition continues through November 6th, 1994.

On Friday, October 14th, a panel discussion will be held at 8:00 pm in the gallery, offering our audiences an opportunity to meet the artists and discuss issues addressed in their work. This presentation, which is free and open to the public, will include the artist Mike Cockrill and Brian Calvin, ISU Theater/Film faculty member Shari Zeck, Larry Stanley, a lawyer with expertise in art censorship issues, and will be moderated by Barry Blinderman. A reception for the artists will follow immediately after this special educational event, occurring in conjunction with the opening reception for *Under the Needle*, located in Galleries II and III.



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## Under the Needle: Explorations in the art of tattoo

*Under the Needle*: explorations in the art of tattoo which opens October 14th with a reception from 7:00pm to 10:00pm in University Galleries II and III features performance art by Nick Colella, Scott Harrison, and Ed Young as well as photography by Jeff Crisman. Curated by Greg Bower, the exhibition will include painted murals of tattoo designs and photographs of heavily tattooed people, providing a unique look at a diverse range of formal and conceptual issues involved in this indelible art form. *Under the Needle* continues through November 6th, 1994.

The tattoo has a long history of cultural and artistic expression, from the Maori culture who used abstract black patterning and designs as a tribal language to the Samoan's who used the pe'a (a full body tattoo) as a display of bravery and rite of passage. Its more contemporary emergence as a popular form of body decoration has come to symbolize independence and individuality. Whether fashion trend or symbolic expression, tattooing embraces all of these elements while balancing tenuously on the boundary between high and low art.

The gallery patron not familiar with tattooing will be given an introduction to the medium through a performance by tattooist Nick Colella and Scott Harrison, both of Chicago, and Ed Young of Galesburg. They will export their art out of the tattoo parlor into the art gallery to show the viewer how the needle passes through the flesh to leave its mark as the tattoo. In addition to their performance they will be covering the walls with tattoo designs to provide an unconventional look at their art. Jeff Crisman, a Chicago photographer, known for his sensitive portraits of heavily tattooed people which were also featured in the *Eye Tattooed America* exhibition, provides a historical look at tattooing through his depictions of some of the masters and masterpieces of the last forty years. *Under the Needle* presents the tattoo in a new context and reinforces the fact that the tattoo is not a traditional art commodity - the tattoo cannot be bought and sold like customary art works. Through the work of these artists, the audience will discover that the tattoo is no longer the emblem of drunken sailors and marines. Tattooing is an art form with a lengthy past that is aesthetic and thought provoking.

For more information or a guided tour contact the gallery at (309) 438-5487

University Galleries is located on the first floor of the Center for Visual Arts building on the southeast corner of the Illinois State University quad.

Gallery hours are as followed:  
Closed Monday  
Tuesday 9:30am - 9:00pm  
Wed-Fri 9:30am - 4:30pm  
Sat-Sun 12:00 - 4:00pm

## EDWARD RUST OF STATE FARM: THE MONEY MAN IN THE WAR ON WORKERS



Edward Rust gets the gold and this locked-out child gets the grief.

Dear Mr. Rust:

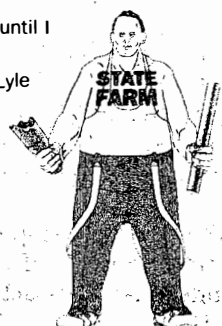
I am joining UPIU Local 7837's boycott of State Farm and will encourage others to do the same until I receive satisfactory answers to the following questions:

Why is my so-called "good neighbor" investing in anti-union companies like ADM/Staley/Tate & Lyle and Caterpillar? How can you justify making profits from the suffering of striking and locked-out workers? As an investor in, and part owner of, these companies State Farm has a responsibility to take strong action against these community-bashers.

Please let me know if you and State Farm intend to do the right thing in this matter or if you plan to keep making money off of workers' misery.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Edward Rust, Jr., President • State Farm Insurance • 1 State Farm Plaza • Bloomington, IL 61710



## Letters

Hey, Posters!

Enclosed you will find a check for \$16.00:

- \$5.00 to pay for another year's subscription to *Post Amerikan*
- \$11.00 to pay for the raffle tickets I purchased over the phone

With this check, my balance at the *Post* should be \$0.00. And I enthusiastically donate my Grand Prize of \$100.00 to *Post Amerikan* to be spent in any way necessary to keep the paper running. Thank you all for your continued hard work. I know first hand how difficult your job is.

Peace:

Scott DeWitt

## UAW Rally

**What:** Rally in support of locked-out and striking workers. Nonviolent direct action.

**When:** October 15th, 1994 at 2:00pm

**Where:** Meet at UAW Local 751 at 2365 East Geddes Avenue in Decatur, Illinois.

**Who:** Anyone who is tired of corporate thugs and is ready to fight back!





# The 22-Day Adagio

## presented by the Breadline Theatre

### INTER-ADLINE

Breadline Theatre Group's "The 22-Day Adagio" will be the first live performance at the newly remodeled Normal Theater. The show is at 8:00pm on October 10th. Tickets are \$8.00/\$5.00 for students and seniors and can be purchased by calling 829-4817.

The October 10th show is an encore performance of the piece that began it all for Breadline Theatre. In 1993, ISU graduate students Robert Caisley and Paul Kampf came together with MFA directing graduate Michael Oswalt to produce Caisley's original script. It was during the production of "The 22-Day Adagio" that the group discovered their unique method of working together (a rehearsal process which involves improvisation, brainstorming and revision by the group as a whole) and as a result, the Breadline Theatre was formed.

"The 22-Day Adagio" grew out of a news story Caisley heard about a Bosnian cellist playing music for the dead. Caisley envisioned a breadline massacre in which one man is spared, a musician who returns to the scene each day playing an adagio for the murdered.

"Adagio" is acted by Paul Kampf and directed by Michael Oswalt.



**Downers** to Ron Westerdahl and other Town of Normal officials for allowing WIHN to broadcast the "Rush Limbaugh Show" at this year's annual Corn Fest. WIHN had no business blarring the political/religious views of anyone during an open community festival.

The broadcast lasted from 11am-1pm.

**Downers** to HBO for their new marketing campaign. The commercial in question depicts women as typical "dumb blondes". Such examples of the sexist behavior include one woman declaring, "I don't eat meat, cause I'm a vegetarian, tee hee" and another woman snapping her gum and confessing, "I don't get it."

Is degrading half the population, not to mention potential subscribers, an effective way to seek new business? I don't get it (ie. HBO) and now, as a result of their sexist views, never will.

**Uppers** to the Park Store for carrying organic meats\* and vegetables at reasonable prices.  
\* *although some Posties say "meat is murder" organic or not.*

**Downers** to the general public for not purchasing the vegetables because they don't "look as good" as the non-organic produce. Consumers should be aware that untreated produce may not have the same size or coloring as chemically grown produce, but it is natural.

**Uppers** to the cultural diversity of this year's Culturefest at Miller Park. May next year's event bring out an even wider range of cultures.

**Downers** to local employers who view potential applicants in terms of their size. Take this as a reminder that these actions are essentially illegal.

**Downers** to the people sporting the t-shirt stating "Silly faggot dicks are for chicks"

Breadline just completed their 1st 3-play summer season which included the world premiere of "Sightless Sounds" by Paul Kampf and "The Love for Three Oranges" by Kampf and Caisley, as well as a reworking of Henrik Ibsen's "Peer Gynt."

Future plans for the group include a production based on the Faust myth, visiting artists from Berlin and Macedonia, as well as an international tour. A German playwright and Macedonian actor will join the group in the 1995 season to begin work on the Faust production. The production will premiere at ISU in February to be followed by a spring tour of the United States and trips to London, Berlin and Macedonia in the summer.

The Post Amerikan will keep you updated on future performances. Breadline's ticket office number is 827-7431.

Sherrin

## Need a Date?

Looking for love in all the wrong places? You're the one that I (don't) want? I will always love yooooooooooooo? (not).

As always, the *Post* comes through for our beloved (yet dateless) readers. Our new service "Love (Post) Amerikan Style" may be just what you're looking for.



## Women seeking women

### FRIENDS, MAYBE MORE?

Where in this town can I meet an attractive, stable, warm, and physically fit woman who is looking for friendship and whatever else might develop?  
**#8994FMM**

Love Post Amerikan Style  
**#8994**  
Post Amerikan  
P.O. Box 3452  
Bloomington, IL 61702

All replies will be forwarded to above individual(s).

## Oops! So Sorry

In our "Love Post Amerikan Style" ad, one of the disclaimers states that, "all responses will remain confidential." We weren't kidding. In fact it's so confidential, that even we don't know. (You see, we accidentally misplaced the name and address of the person that ran the following ad in the last issue and we can't forward any of the responses they've received.) If this ad is yours, please send us your name and address - again, (we promise we will not lose it this time) and we will send you your responses. Again, we apologize and we hope that you can find it in your heart to forgive us.

### RADICAL PHILOSOPHY ASSOCIATION

#### First National Conference

Nov. 3-6, 1994,  
DRAKE UNIVERSITY  
Des Moines, IA



#### PLENARIES:

Political Organizing in the 90's; The Ways of Socialism?; International Feminism; Nationalism; Racism; Radical Agenda for the Next Decade; and many other panels.

#### For Information, Call:

Jon Torgerson, Philosophy, Drake Univ., Des Moines IA 50311. 515-271-2011 JT5001R@ACAD.DRAKE.EDU or Richard Schmitt, Philosophy Brown Univ., Providence RI 02912. 508-757-0814. RSCHMITT@VAX.CLARKU.EDU

## Love (post) amerikan Style

### WRITE YOUR TEXT

1.....2.....3.....4.....5.....  
6.....7.....8.....9.....10.....  
11.....12.....13.....14.....  
15.....16.....17.....18.....  
19.....20.....  
(ADDITIONAL) 21.....22.....23.....  
24.....25.....

### THE DETAILS

- \_\_\_ JUST FRIENDS
- \_\_\_ WOMEN SEEKING MEN
- \_\_\_ MEN SEEKING WOMEN
- \_\_\_ WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN
- \_\_\_ MEN SEEKING MEN
- \_\_\_ OTHER

### MAIL TO:

LOVE POST AMERIKAN STYLE  
C/O POST AMERIKAN  
P.O. BOX 3452  
BLOOMINGTON, IL 61702

### HOW IT WORKS:

1. A MAIL MATCHES AD OF 25 WORDS OR LESS COSTS \$5 AND RUNS FOR ONE ISSUE. EACH WORD OVER 25 COSTS 50¢ ADDITIONAL.
2. THE POST ASSIGNS A MAIL MATCHBOX NUMBER TO YOUR AD AND FORWARDS REPLIES TO YOU ONCE A WEEK. (OR DEPENDING ON VOLUME RECEIVED).
3. MAIL MATCHES ARE INTENDED FOR INDIVIDUALS. NO DATING SERVICES, SINGLES CLUBS, OR BUSINESSES MAY BUY THEM.
4. NO LAST NAMES, ADDRESSES, OR PHONE #'S ARE ALLOWED IN YOUR AD COPY. WE WILL NOT PRINT ADS WE FIND TO BE IN POOR TASTE.

ALL RESPONSES WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL.





# Dear **Ms.** Hippie

Dear Ms. Hippie:

I recently read something that made me feel like I may not be the only person that experiences this peculiar inclination while driving. Although I generally consider myself to be a well balanced person, or pretty darn close, I don't know what to make of this. Can you help?

Here's what I am talking about:

"If I drive for more than four or five hours in a row I start getting a little curious about the invincibility of my car and its inhabitants. I'll be cruising at 70 miles an hour down an interstate highway and all of a sudden I'll have this incredible urge to spin the wheel to the left and see what happens. The urge is especially strong when crossing over rivers. Suicidal tendencies? Nah..."

I'd like to add that my methods are a little different than this person's. I feel the urge to drive off the highway, especially over hills, or drive into the next lane while I'm slightly inclined.

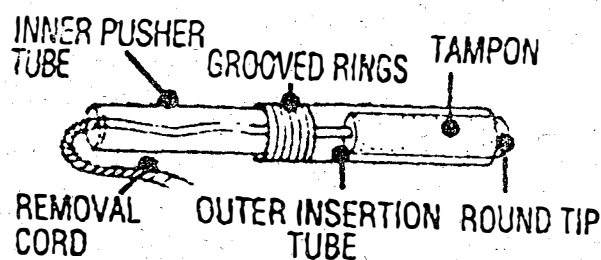
I never think of the consequences of these certain automotive feats, but I somehow imagine I would always land on my feet—or tires, if you will.

Note: If it helps, the tendency to do this is much stronger when I'm in Wisconsin.

Signed,  
Highway to Hell?

Dear Hell?,

Doing unnatural things makes for unnatural frames of mind and body. Several years ago, the Centers for Disease Control found out that leaving huge wads of artificial material in one's body for long periods of time led to Toxic Shock Syndrome, for example. Probably the first women who had that considered their cold sweats and fatigue a total mystery; after all, all they'd done was inserted a monster tampon ten days ago!



Driving for more than four or five hours is a similarly strange thing to do, and you can expect odd stuff to happen. Your mind is yelling, "Hey! I thought we had a deal! You wouldn't make me listen to this terrible music for more than an hour, and I wouldn't give you any weird thoughts! What happened?" If, in fact, you don't listen to terrible music on long car trips, maybe you should check your sanitary protection. If that's okay, consider whether you've recently eaten a diet high in that no-fat food where fat belongs, like butter and cheese. If so, no wonder Wisconsin is mad. In the final analysis, it may be that just sitting behind the wheel so long makes the mind begin to stimulate itself with unusual tidbits.

Ms. Hippie firmly believes that on car trips, one should stop at least every sixty miles and have a tasty snack at a site that is either scenic or elegant or both. Wisconsin has plenty of these. You will find that this is the way nature intended for humans to travel, and you will have peace of mind. Mr. and Ms. Hippie once took three weeks to drive from Bloomington to Denver and arrived quite relaxed.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT TOXIC-SHOCK SYNDROME (TSS)

The warning signs of TSS include: a sudden high fever (usually 102°F or higher), vomiting, diarrhea, a rash that looks like a sunburn, dizziness, muscle aches, or fainting or near fainting when standing up. TSS can rapidly progress from flu-like symptoms to a serious illness that can be fatal. If you have any of these signs and are using a tampon, remove it and contact your doctor for immediate treatment. Tell your doctor that you have been using tampons and think that you may have TSS. You should seek medical treatment before resuming the use of tampons if you have had TSS warning signs in the past. To answer any questions you may have regarding TSS or tampon use, consult your doctor.

The decision to use a tampon is, as it always has been, a personal decision. In order to make informed decisions about the use of tampons, you should be aware of the following:

1. TSS is a disease believed to be caused by toxin-producing strains of the bacterium *Staphylococcus aureus*. Approximately 70% of the cases reported to the Federal Centers for Disease Control with onset in 1983-85 occurred in menstruating women who were using tampons, while the remaining 30% occurred in children, men, and women who were not menstruating.

2. The incidence of TSS is estimated to be 1 to 17 cases per 100,000 menstruating girls and women per year. The risk of developing TSS is higher for teenage girls and women under 30 years of age than for older women.

3. You can reduce the risk of TSS by alternating your tampon use with feminine pads. You can also avoid the risk of tampon-associated TSS by not using tampons.

4. Use a tampon with the minimum absorbency needed to control your menstrual flow in order to reduce the risk of getting TSS. Leading epidemiological studies have found that the risk of TSS is related to tampon absorbency: the higher the absorbency, the greater the risk of TSS; the lower the absorbency, the lesser the risk. (See below for selection of proper absorbency.)

**Other Helpful Advice:** The amount of menstrual flow varies with each woman, within a single period and from month to month. You should evaluate your flow and select the tampon with the minimum absorbency required to meet your needs. You may want to use different tampon absorbencies for different days of your menstrual period.

## TAMPAX® TAMPONS CAN BE WORN FOR UP TO 8 HOURS

You can wear TAMPAX® tampons for up to 8 hours, during the day or at night. Unlike pads, which can bunch and shift, TAMPAX® tampons stay in place while you sleep so you can move and turn comfortably. With TAMPAX® tampons you can feel protected, even overnight.



Dear Ms. Hippie:

I just recently started a position which entitles me to have the option of a personal retirement

account, and my boss (who I like very much, but can be a bit clueless at times) is practically beating down on me to take advantage of this.

Although I agree that this is a very smart, fiscally responsible thing to do, my finances at this time will not allow me to plunk down 100 bucks a month, so I can buy a higher grade of rice in forty years! (You see, I'm in my mid-20s and have a whopping 53 cents in my savings account.)

Ms. Hippie, I like my job, and I don't want to offend my boss, but how do I break it gently to her next time I'm cornered at work and simple reactions like "I don't fucking make enough" spew out of my mouth.

Any suggestions?

Sincerely,  
Looking Forward to Senior Discounts

Dear Forward,

Shame about poverty is usually undeserved and, in Ms. Hippie's opinion, should be eradicated. "I can't afford it" is a straightforward statement that more people should be emboldened to say. Dr. Spock even encourages parents to say this to their whining, grasping little offspring, in hopes that they will grow up understanding the world of finance. He is probably overoptimistic.

Understanding human nature as she does, Ms. Hippie is always willing to offer a less challenging tactic. Blame it all on someone else, preferably family. Say, "I have to use that money to pay off my mother's new kidney," or, "I'm sending everything I can to relatives in

Haiti." Or even, "My daddy makes all my investments for me."



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# Rutherford's Double Standards

When twelve year old Carrie Jetton was raped and murdered this past August, State Representative Dan Rutherford stated that he believed child murderers should be killed because they prey on the weakest members of society. (A cynic might suppose that Rutherford was using Jetton's murder as an opportunity to aid in his campaign for the 87th district.)

Yes, this is the same Rutherford who wrote a letter to Judge Charles Witte requesting leniency in the sentencing of Kevin Rittenhouse, who was sentenced to 38 years in prison for the rape and murder of Mal Chaplin. (see Vol. 23 No. 1 Feb/Mar 1994)

It is interesting to note who Rutherford defines as the weakest members of our society. Apparently a 4'11", homeless Korean woman is not vulnerable by Rutherford's standards. But perhaps the real reason for Rutherford's double standard lies in the class and race of the perpetrators. Rutherford decided that Jetton's murderer - a young black man - should be killed while Chaplin's upper class white assailant should receive an education.

\* Rittenhouse was recently moved to a medium security prison. This move happened many years before most inmates would even be considered for such a transfer.

Sherrin

This is the actual letter Rutherford sent to Judge Witte.



## Dan Rutherford State Representative • 87th District

District Office:  
732 W. Madison St.  
Pontiac, IL 61764  
815/842-3632  
Fax: 815/842-2875

Capitol Office:  
H-2 Stratton Bldg.  
Springfield, IL 62706  
217/782-7776  
Fax: 217/782-0709

Bloomington Office:  
P.O. Box 979  
Bloomington, IL 61702  
309/662-6944

Committees:  
Spokesman:  
Constitutional Officers  
Member:  
Agriculture & Conservation  
Insurance  
Judiciary I  
Judiciary II

Honorable Charles Witte  
Law and Justice Center  
104 W. Front Street  
Fourth Floor  
Bloomington, IL 61701

Dear Judge Witte,

I am writing you on behalf of Kevin Rittenhouse. I have known the Rittenhouse family for quite some time and believe them to be a creditable and wholesome family. It has been recognized that Kevin has done wrong, but I do hope that we can try to help this young person develop for the future.

It is my understanding that Kevin would like to further his education and have opportunities to grow as a person while he is in the correctional facility. I would encourage that the evaluation for location of his time of service be taken into consideration the opportunity for him to learn and receive an appropriate education and developmental skills.

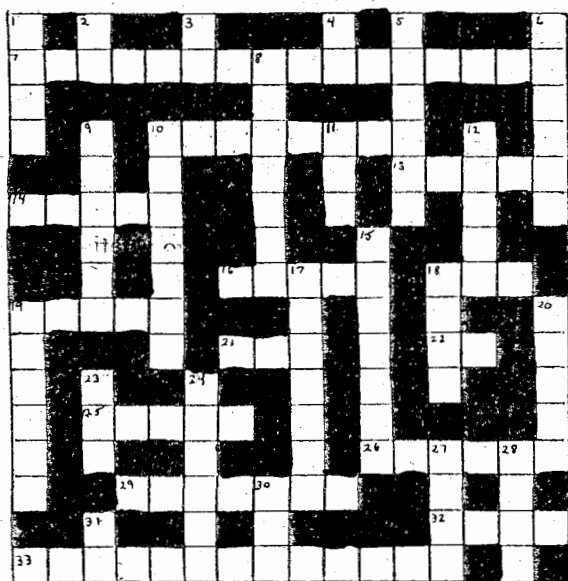
Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

DAN RUTHERFORD  
State Representative

DR/dc

# Larger Than Life Figures II; Makers of Mirth & Music



DOWN

- 1 The Jazz-Queen of "Scat"
- 2 Taught us how to Twist (init)
- 3 Fleetwood Mac gypsy (init)
- 4 I ♥ Lucy cohort-in-crime (init)
- 5 Mr. "Almost Cut My Hair"
- 6 Heart's Ann, Beach Boy Brian or his daughter  
Carnie
- 8 Elvis Aaron
- 9 Blind jazz singer Diane
- 10 Samurai Blues Brother
- 11 "Who's on second" vaudevillian
- 12 Self-loathing comedienne who shares last name  
with 31 DOWN
- 15 The Yaz gal
- 17 "Fats" forgotten first name
- 18 Had a "Holly Jolly Christmas"
- 19 Grateful Dead necktie mogul
- 20 The 3rd Stooge
- 23 Sang of things "Illegal, Immoral & Fattening"  
with fellow Turtle Eddie
- 24 Cross-dressing Polyester queen
- 27 "Sweet" SCTV alumnus
- 28 Country gal Chapin Carpenter
- 30 Diamond Jim's Russell
- 31 William Claude Dukenfield

ACROSS

- 7 World-renowned Italian tenor
- 10 Belonging to opera diva Sills
- 13 Played Batman's Egyptian nemesis, King Tut
- 14 Broadway's Merman or blues' Waters
- 16 Romeo Void chanteuse
- 18 Frances Bavier, better known as Opie's Aunt
- 19 Has "friends in low places"
- 21 "Ball & Chain" Big Mama (init)
- 22 Controversial sitcom actress (init)
- 25 Comedian Anderson or jazzman Satchmo
- 26 Sister Act's dancing nun
- 29 Hazel's Booth or What's Happening's Hemphill
- 32 Premier New Orleans trumpet virtuoso
- 33 "The Great One" of comedy





# Winter Wren's Star Guide

## October/November

### ARIES -- March 21-April 19

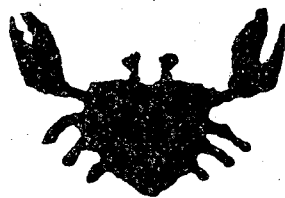
Spend more time and energy on your own pet projects in the days ahead; you have neglected the things that tend to make you happy. Call your friends and family that are far from you around the 25th of October. Surprise your mate with a special dinner during the first weekend of November. Finances will improve toward the middle of October. An unplanned trip comes along on the business front around November 19; it could spoil plans for Thanksgiving.

### TAURUS -- April 20-May 20

Get caught up on the financial backlog; you are getting farther behind and must get things in balance at once. If you don't get the financial picture under control, the holiday season looks bleak. Pay attention to business matters as well; you are getting behind in the work load and may have trouble catching up. Treat your physical self better or suffer as the weather becomes colder. A major project is going to take up a good portion of your time; don't forget to spend time with your loved ones or there will be hard feelings.

### GEMINI -- May 21-June 20

Work at accomplishing a smoother balance between the desires of yourself and those around you; you frequently put your own best interests aside. Supplement your income in whatever ways possible; you have many untapped sources of creativity that can assist you financially. Friends are pushing where they do not belong, especially in areas of relationships. A phone call from an old school chum stirs up feelings of disrest; be careful to deal with them in an honest manner.



### CANCER -- June 21-July 22

A phone call from a relative brings relieving news around the 30th of November. Try to plan one last short get away before the time is lost; things will be far too hectic after Thanksgiving to allow you to sneak off. Start your fall cleaning soon and get it over with so it does not become a burden later when the social season starts to heat up. A large purchase should be postponed until after the first of next year; you will need that money for other things in the mean time.

### LEO -- July 23-August 22

Remember you have started a new phase in your life with the passing of your natal day; be aware of the new lessons and attitudes that await you and deal with them in a positive manner. Money matters will improve with awareness of your habits; keep track of your spending and see where the money goes. Get more restive sleep and increase the vitamin intake along with more fresh fruit and vegetables. Do the pre-winter maintenance on your car early to save yourself frustration and delays.

### VIRGO -- August 23-September 22

Surprise a special person with a very unique gift around the 28th of October and be prepared for a total reversal in their outlook in regards to your relationship. Get through the planning stages of your next project and on to the actual work; you're wasting time that will be hard to make up later on. Look for mail around the 1st of November that requires your immediate attention. Beware of unstable emotions in family members during the holiday gatherings; don't let a momentary bit of temper cause long term problems.



### LIBRA -- September 23-October 22

Do not delegate tasks without keeping a close eye on the workers and their results; if errors are made, you will receive the blame. A missing document has been stored away; go back through old files from two years in the past and you will locate it. Save time for an unexpected family gathering; a prodigal family member will return home ahead of the holiday gatherings. Put personal business ideas on hold for the time being; the time for them will be better in the spring.



### CAPRICORN -- December 22-January 19

You are not doing as well as expected regarding your current ventures; re-evaluate your reasons for becoming involved with these projects and you will find out why things continue to go awry in spite of your best efforts. You need to



have a serious discussion with the family as to the long term future, especially in regards to pet projects. Don't wait for others to solve your problems; get the jump on them yourself and you'll be surprised how quickly they are overcome.

### SCORPIO -- October 23-November 21

Do not stick your nose in other people's affairs and play both ends against the middle; you will be the only injured party and are liable to end up short the company of several very close friends. Your mate is beginning to tire of doing favors for your friends; if you volunteer assistance, you should be the one to follow through. Stiffen up and meet the proper work ethic or your finances may suffer. Expect a heavier work load during most of November and plan your schedule accordingly. Call your parents once in a while, just to say "hello".

### SAGITTARIUS -- November 22-December 21

An unexpected business trip will put things completely out of sorts at home; so make repairs before you go and remember to take something special back for someone special. Do not do anything foolish regarding a brief attraction to a charming person; the regrets would be long lasting and the trust you damage would likely be permanent. Clean up left over work before the quarter ends at the office. Make sure you are taking proper care of your health. A letter will arrive around November 3rd that will put your mind at ease.

### AQUARIUS -- January 20-February 18

Pull back on your plans to spread out and diversify in your business; this is not time to grow but to shore up what you already have before you lose it. Work will be hard in days ahead, but you need to stick with something for awhile and not quit so easily when things don't go your way. Your dreams will be realized, but not until you have invested in them the time and effort that they deserve. Finances are looking more positive in the days ahead, but don't spend your windfall all in one place.



### PISCES -- February 19-March 20

Clear up neglected emotional concerns quickly before they reach into your current life and cause havoc; this has a great deal to do with problems in your current relationship. The boss feels you have not been putting forth true effort; get back into the swing at work before an upcoming raise is blown for another year. Be aware of new job opportunities that may present themselves for your consideration; make sure they are really as good as they seem.

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☐ L ☐ XL (CHECK SIZE) \$10.00

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# Ethics in Psychism: The Responsibilities of Giving Advice

Being a psychic is many things. It is sometimes frightening; sometimes enlightening; sometimes appreciated; sometimes feared. It is often mocked, disrespected and misunderstood. It is a gift; it is a responsibility and it is to be used with honor and honesty. It is this aspect of the psychic work that we are concerned with in this article: The Ethics.

In general, the better part of the population of this country has very little positive to say about a psychic. A national poll in a major newspaper a few years back listed psychics and astrologers as the second least respected occupation in this country. Only used car salespersons ranked higher in terms of disrespect. That says a great deal about the faith most people put in professional psychics. But some of that lack of respect is certainly deserved.

Virtually every urban area in America sports at least one (and usually many more) "neon sign" psychic. A "neon sign" psychic is a term used within the inner circles of the psychic trade for those unethical persons who set up shop under an common surname or unique first name, usually not their own, who possess little if any skill and absolutely no ethics. They are usually located at prominent intersections with so much signery that it is absolutely impossible to miss them, even if you try.

An appointment for a reading with them is usually not necessary. Walk-ins are welcome. Patrons are often cautioned not to discuss their reading with anyone else or the outcome will be affected. In advertisements, these "readers" purport to specializing in the reuniting of lost loves and cures for all problems of life. And here enters the unwary, troubled person into the web of treachery and deceit.

Many people who are seeking a psychic in a time of extreme emotion are not in the mood to wait around for a psychic fair, nor are they going to drive to one of the surrounding communities with a reputable metaphysical store to consult their bulletin board for referrals. They want advice and they want it now. It's very easy to locate your local "neon sign" psychic. The client walks into the door, into a very pristine setting where promises, that no respectable psychic would ever make, flow like water. And at the close of this deeply troubled consultation, the reader assures the client that these problems can be solved: candles can be lit, prayers can be said; all will be well. For a price. Help can always be attained. For a price.

A person who is troubled is in need of good, honest advice and aid, not promises which will not come true. A person who is troubled is easy prey for these unethical types. And when the client's supply of money has dried up, so has the "help".

This is where it falls to the psychic community to police their own. If we tolerate fraud among our ranks, we will continue to receive no respect. Professional psychism and the actual act of psychic consulting require complete irreproachable ethics, honesty and confidentiality. Each client is different, with different concerns and different needs and deserves to be treated as an individual. A psychic consultation should be private, personal and professional. No outlandish promises should be made. A client should not be told what they "want" to hear; they would be told the truth. And when it is possible, a client should be assisted to find ways to help themselves. They need to be aware of the options they have so they can find direction in life. To point out a simple "this is what is going to happen" is to create a dependency on the advisor. Again, this is not an ethical practice.

Giving another person advice on their life is a large responsibility. It is certainly not a responsibility to be taken lightly. It is a twenty four hour a day commitment to be there if someone you have advised is in need.

Sometimes, they don't have money for a consultation, but need some reassurance anyway and that is part of the responsibility as well. It is a profession for someone with a heart and a conscious. It is not for everyone or just anyone. And if we take the responsibility to heart, then perhaps the next time a survey of professions is conducted, psychics will be nearer to the top.

Winter Wren



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6.....7.....8.....9.....10.....  
11.....12.....13.....14.....  
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# Gay/Lesbian & Bisexual Issues

**NATIONAL  
NGLTF**  
GAY & LESBIAN  
TASK FORCE  
POLICY INSTITUTE

## ACTIVIST ALERT

### The Olympics are out of Cobb!

We scored a victory late last July as the Atlanta Committee for The Olympic Games (ACOG) decided to move the 1996 Olympic volleyball venue out of the anti-gay Cobb County, Georgia. NGLTF had worked closely with the Olympics Out of Cobb Coalition to urge ACOG to take action, and Activist Alert readers to take action as well. Now attention must turn to the cause of it all—the anti-gay resolution passed last year by the Cobb County Commissioners.

*Encourage Cobb citizens to demand the repeal of anti-gay resolution that lost them the Olympic Games and has brought negative national media attention. Send letters to the editor of the Marietta Daily Journal, 580 Fairground St., Marietta, GA 30060; or the Atlanta Constitution, 72 Marietta St., NW, Atlanta, GA 30303-2804.*

### Visa Card holders take action

Pat Robertson has called on his supporters to contact Visa and protest that company's corporate donation of money and services to the Gay Games. While the gay/lesbian/bisexual community does not have the television resources of the 700 Club or Christian Broadcast Network, activists have been posting notices over computer networks, generating calls and letters. Visa operators have acknowledged the increase in calls. Because Visa operators at the company's 800-telephone number are currently being deluged with pro and con calls, the company has recommended submitting your opinion through written correspondence.

*If you are a Visa card holder, make sure to contact the company and support their corporate donation to the Gay Games. Write Visa International, P. O. Box 8999, San Francisco, CA 94128-8999; or call 800-336-3386.*

### CRS Mandate update

NGLTF has been urging congress for years to expand the mandate of the Department of Justice's Community Relations Service (CRS) to include sexual orientation and religion. The CRS Mandate has received renewed attention due to NGLTF advocacy, the highly publicized dispute involving Camp Sister Spirit in Mississippi, and many letters from constituents. Keep those letters coming. Congressional hearings, which began last August, are looking into the issue of adding sexual orientation and religion to the CRS Mandate.

*Urge Congress to expand the CRS mandate. Send letters to Rep. Jack Brooks, Chair of the House Judiciary Committee; Rep. Hamilton Fish, ranking Republican; Sen. Joseph Biden, Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee; and Sen. Oren Hatch, ranking Republican. Send Representatives mail to U. S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515, and Senators' mail to U. S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510.*

### Homophobia stops here

Lesbian activist Dee Mosbacher has produced a dramatic new videotape in response to the video wars launched by the Radical Right. In conjunction with Frances Reid, Mosbacher has produced a 24-minute video, "Straight From The Heart," to confront the lies and distortions of the "Agenda" videos churned out by the Far Right. The video profiles parents who have come to a new understanding of their gay and lesbian children and now courageously wish to share their stories.

The producers will be distributing the video in states facing anti-gay ballot measures or where such measures are threatened for future action. The producers hope to target legislators, educators, church members, and others.

Mosbacher is the daughter of Robert Mosbacher, former Secretary of Commerce in the Bush Administration and chief fundraiser for Bush's 1992 re-election campaign. Although an activist herself all her adult life, Mosbacher strengthened her commitment to fight the Radical Right after witnessing the gay bashing rhetoric of the 1992 Republican National Convention.

*Individuals and organizations may obtain a copy of the video for \$39.95 from Woman Vision, 3145 Geary Boulevard, Box 421, San Francisco, CA 94118. Activists are encouraged to arrange group educational viewings of the video with your church or other community organizations.*



**READ MY LIPS**



If you have an item you think should be included in **ACTIVIST ALERT**, please mail or fax it to Robin Kane, Activist Alert editor, NGLTF Policy Institute, 2320 17th St., NW, Washington, DC 20009; fax (202) 332-0207; e-mail [rakngltf@aol.com](mailto:rakngltf@aol.com). All entries should be national in scope or should allow for activists from around the country to respond.

**NATIONAL GAY & LESBIAN TASK FORCE**  
2320 17th St., NW  
Washington, DC 20009  
(202) 332-6483 phone; (202) 332-0207 fax  
(202) 332-6219 TTY; [ngltf@aol.com](mailto:ngltf@aol.com) (e-mail)

**CLUB**

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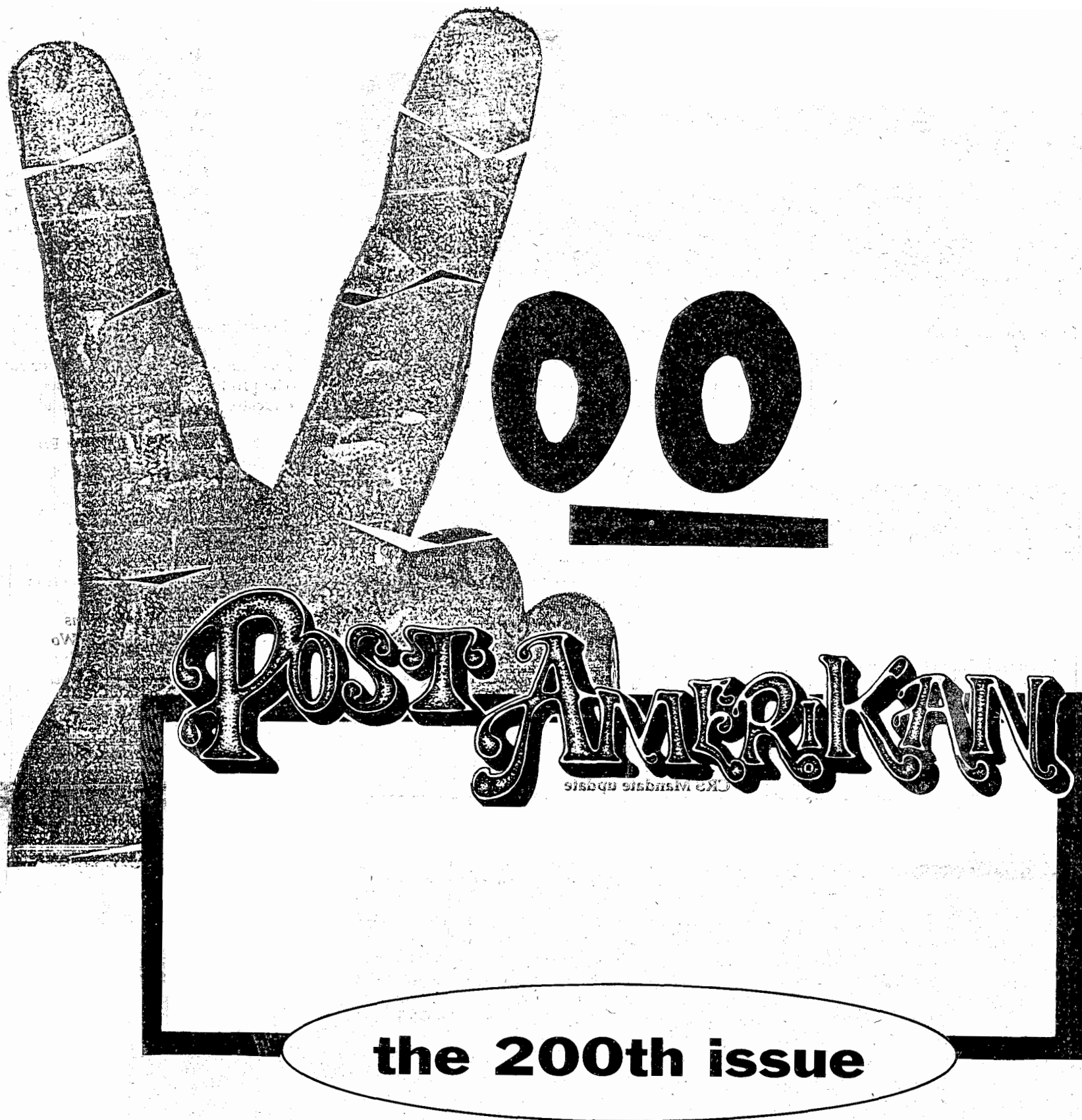
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be young, have fun.  
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# True Confessions: Posties reflect

## Phoebe Caulfield Grows Up

During the 1970s, I wrote for the Post-Amerikan mainly under my pen name, Phoebe Caulfield. Phoebe is Holden Caulfield's little sister in a novel by J. D. Salinger, Catcher in the Rye. This was back when teenagers read novels, and Catcher in the Rye was one that adults worried about kids reading. Yes, it was a really long time ago.

As Phoebe Caulfield, I went around pretty much in a state of being indignant, uppity, outrageous, and generally pissed off in a fun kind of way. I wrote articles complaining about stuff, and people liked them. The stuff was what most people would like to complain about if they had been paying attention, and I complained in a manner naughty enough to gratify the readers' stifled adolescent impulses. (The Teenager Within is not given nearly enough press.) I was infamous for Going Too Far This Time.

My material came from everyday life in Bloomington-Normal: the plastic landscaping at the local Shell station, wrangles with the telephone company, stupid movies, benighted sex education, bad food, excruciatingly dull panel discussions about juvenile justice, flat beer, extortion by Illinois Power. Just the kind of beat for a gal who could combine laughing, crying, shaking with rage, explaining photo reduction math, and operating a wanky Selectric at the same time, on a moment's notice.

I liked the things that many people remember the Post for, like catching a police officer in a photo that looked like he was peeing on the wheel of a parked car, or editorializing upon a sanitary pad ludicrously named New Freedom. Sophisticated stuff.

I was young then, and now I am not young. Movies like The Big Chill give you the impression that when people like me grow up, they get comfortable jobs in law, medicine, or

entertainment, live in nice houses, and have all matching towels. We are also supposed to outgrow being pissed off and to look back on our youthful zeal with fond chuckles. We are supposed to stop Going Too Far This Time.

This pisses me off. Here I am, middle-aged and just as weird as ever if not more so. Let me go over a few things that I still have to complain about twenty years later.

Stupid movies, speaking of The Big Chill. I hooted and jeered so hard at Dances with Wolves that my husband had to go watch in the basement. Give me a break. Here is every man's daydream: a really beautiful really skinny really white woman with no body hair, who barely speaks and doesn't want a big wedding. Jeez. These two films get the Phoebe Caulfield Award for Packing Reactionary Crap in Hip Clothing.

Plastic, in particular unnecessary plastic, is still a major irritant. When one gets older, the pills one needs no longer come folded up in pretty paper, as easily accessible as the colorful universe within. Nowadays, I just want a couple of allergy pills now and then. But I can't get them without a twisted battle with incredibly tough plastic bubbles, tearing my tender fingertips and making me grind my teeth and yelp like a tortured chihuahua. Whose fault? The Tylenol Killer's!

I hate the Tylenol Killer. Not because of the meaningless loss of innocent lives, for Christ's sake. Those people had headaches anyway, probably brain cancer from years in our educational system. No, it's the Killer's prank that started this insane orgy of wrapping or strapping everything in access-proof plastic. This creates an extra level of background stress whenever it looks like a package may need opening. The kind of stress that makes you want to poison strangers, in fact. It really pisses me off.

That reminds me: Here in B-N, the L.A. race riots themselves were not nearly as disturbing as listening to local idiots talk about the riots, in grocery lines and such unavoidable spots. "I just don't understand why those people are trashing their own neighborhoods," they'd say, shaking their empty heads in smug wonder. Phoebe inwardly shrieked, "HAVENT YOU EVER HAD PMS???" (The same local idiots, I suppose, institute smarmy chili suppers and noise-level-and-yard-decor guidelines in their own damn neighborhoods, the Nazi creeps.)

I still also think that if people are going to get guaranteed time off work for breeding purposes, those of us who have wisely decided not to overburden the planet with our quirky genetic material should get equal guaranteed time off work. We should get six weeks or whatever to learn to play piano or speak French or see what smells so funny at the bottom of the closet. And we shouldn't even have to show that we have any talent or skill that will make us successful at any of these pursuits. God knows the breeders don't. Most of the so-called human genetic material on this earth should've been shot where it stood at the age of eight. Or at least encased in tough impermeable plastic.

So, you see, Phoebe Caulfield has managed to get older without attaining maturity as it is normally understood, and one hopes that I have yet again Gone Too Far.

--Phoebe Caulfield

Post script: The musings of my sterner, more reasonable alter ego may be found regularly in these pages in the simple yet profound advice of Ms. Hippie.



## What A Difference 200 Issues Make

Many different symbols and passages can be used to mark time - the seasons, the phases of the moon, days of the week, anthropological eras - so I suppose the number of issues of a small alternative paper in the middle of Illinois is as good a marker as any. But it needs to be taken in context.

Two hundred issues for "Time" or "Newsweek" or even the "Weekly World News" is less than two years. No big deal. But 200 issues for the *Post-Amerikan* represents over 20 years gone by. Now that's significant. Many of the people reading this issue of the paper were not even born when the first issue hit the streets.

Ever since Sherrin called to ask me to write an article for the Post's 200th issue, I have been thinking of how much (and how little) has changed since issue one.

--Two hundred issues ago, the United States was illegally occupying another nation in an attempt to ensure "democracy" throughout the world. Then it was Viet Nam. Now it is Haiti.

--Two hundred issues ago, Eastland Mall was a new shopping center on the far east side of Bloomington. Today its east side borders on the city's population center, Veteran's Parkway. (It was "The Beltline" 200 issues ago.)

--Two hundred issues ago, the media Center at ISU was the student union, Williams Hall was the library, and most students came here to become teachers.

--Two hundred issues ago, there was a coffee house in downtown Normal where students and other enlightened community members could gather to talk, read poetry, drink coffees and teas, and listen to folk singers. There is again, although that opportunity was absent for about 175 issues.

--Two hundred issues ago, O.J. Simpson was best known for playing football.

--Two hundred issues ago, the town of Normal was dry.

--Two hundred issues ago, driving drunk was an adventure, not a felony.

--Two hundred issues ago, when people talked about drugs being a problem with kids they were talking about 19-year-olds.

--Two hundred issues ago, abortion was illegal.

--Two hundred issues ago, College Hills Mall was a cornfield.

--Two hundred issues ago, the "f-word" people talked about was not "feminist".

--Two hundred issues ago, Elvis was being seen by fans all across the country. Of course, he was still alive then.

--Two hundred issues ago, the *Pantagraph* was a right-wing, conservative Republican newspaper. (Some things never change.)

--Two hundred issues ago, no one said the word "rape" aloud. Today there are over 30 rape crisis centers in Illinois alone, and the one in this community has been in existence for over 20 years.

--Two hundred issues ago, no one had died from AIDS.

--Two hundred issues ago, I was living with my parents and preparing to move to Bloomington-Normal for 18 months to finish a degree at ISU and then get out of Illinois for good. Today, I have four cats, three jobs, a 9-year-long relationship, and only 15 years to go on a 30-year mortgage. And I still have about 18 months to go for that degree.

--Two hundred issues ago, the *Post-Amerikan* was being read by the best and brightest people in town. It still is today. Here's hoping it will be 200 issues from now as well.

--Deborah Wiatt





# on their years with the P-A

## Wearing Our Trousers Rolled...



Jeez, another anniversary.

The very idea of the *Post-Am* celebrating yet another mark of venerability is pretty damn daunting - and not a little puzzling. When we started this rag, nobody was lookin' ahead three decades; at the time, an underground paper just seemed like a cool thing to do. More to the point, the idea of being pain-in-the-butt irritants to a conservative midwestern community was irresistible.

That allure kept us early Posties going through more monthly lay-outs than I want to remember. Long weekends in a series of basement offices, rubber cement in your hair, bottled Leinies and sub sandwiches roiling in your stomach - ah, the joys of alternative journalism! Who can forget those cranky Sunday night leftie arguments, fueled by exhaustion and too many beers?

## You Can Fight City Hall

As I was looking through the archives in preparation for this anniversary issue, I came upon the very first *Post* that I remember reading. The year was 1978; the big story was the Home Rentals picket.

When I first met the *Post* folks, I was a naive college student. However, the *Post* changed all that. One Postie took me on my first picket line and stake out. I stopped shaving my legs and pits after reading a *Post* article and before long, I dropped out of college - much to my older sister's dismay. I'm not sure what else I said to her during that phone call. It must have had something to do with smashing the state because I remember her telling me that someday I would grow up and realize that I couldn't fight city hall.

During the years that followed, I remained a faithful reader of the *Post*, but my involvement was limited to strip printing an occasional headline, knowing what weekends we couldn't have parties because they would conflict with *Post* layout and dancing til dawn to Patti Smith's "Gloria" when we did.

Sixteen years have passed. I have received my master's degree, still notpicked up a Lady Schick and thankfully never grown to believe that you

You need something to get you through the drudge work and for many of us it was the joy of getting someone pissed off. The interview that showed ISU president David Berlo for the arrogant nimrod that he was. The messy examination of the contents of narc-group MEG's garbage. The crucified Easter bunny cover that had Calvary Baptist's minister frothing at the mouth. These moments and more kept us going. May not be noble, but it was fun.

I don't know what fuels the current breed of Posties, what pushes 'em through the shitwork, but I suspect a little of that adolescent desire to shock goes a long way. It can be difficult living in a town like Bloomington-Normal. The imbedded conservatism, casual racism and small daily oppressions can be maddening to anyone the least bit out of the mainstream. It's a short skip from outrage to outrageousness.

I don't mean to short sheet all the good community help material that the *P-A* has run through the years: it's the backbone of the paper, after all. But to my admittedly warped mind, it helps to have this honest material surrounded by spurts of goofiness. And it appears that the perpetrators of items like "Ollie's Fun Page" think the same.

So here's to even more years of fun and provocation. Another anniversary. And right!!!!

BS94



# Continued





# The P-A Just Keeps Going, and Going and Going...

My second encounter with the *Post Amerikan* came through my burgeoning friendship with Phoebe Caulfield.

In the August of 1989, I'd just taken an apartment in the same building that Phoebe and her Significant Other managed. They lived upstairs from me in a wonderfully odd and funky apartment. (They eventually had to give it up when the neighborhood anal-retentive complained to City Hall about their parrots, but that's another reminiscence.) Since we were both working in ISU's English Department, we'd go into work together, after taking a few to have morning coffee out on my balcony.

## Haul sixteen tons and what do you get?

I'd had to take a light-industrial temp job for that summer, working in a Black & Decker warehouse in Columbus, OH. Just back in town, having quit three days before, I'd been sputtering to Phoebe over my Mocha Java about Black & Decker's appallingly wasteful method of "re-routing" merchandise over-runs and/or returns from stores that had gone out of business: shoving load after load of still-boxed, perfectly usable popcorn makers, toasters, etc. into the compactor. The flattened remains would be later dumped into a landfill. Management deemed the subsequent tax write-off (as a business loss) more desirable than finding other, more environmentally friendly means for disposal of excess merchandise.

"They could get great PR mileage out of this," I raged to Phoebe. "Donate the appliances to charities--half-way houses, shelters for the homeless, for battered women and children, to organizations like Habitat for Humanity for distribution among their clients, even government-subsidized social service agencies, like the ones that distribute excess cheese and butter."

"Your experience could make a great article for the *Post Amerikan*," Phoebe replied, her bouncing enthusiasm smoothly belying her insidious plan to recruit yet another *Post Amerikan* staff writer.

## More insidious recruitment tactics

Well, Phoebe read my article--"How I Spent My Summer Vacation" (October/November 1989)--and pronounced me "A born *Post Amerikan* writer." A little flattery and I was hooked. I started helping out with typesetting and layout, going to the meetings, the post-production potlucks, cranking out familiar essay after familiar essay.

Working on the *Post* expanded my social circle, tapped my latent talent for advocacy journalism, and helped alleviate my general feelings of worthlessness and insignificance. After I returned home from a layout weekend, having helped

send yet another issue of the *Post Amerikan* off to the printer, I'd kick back and savor the wonderful sense of having done something important, of having engaged once again in a socially responsible enterprise, of having made some little difference. Most importantly, working on the *Post* gave me community.

**Deborah S. Wilson, mild-mannered college professor by day, becomes Dr. Attitude, crusading advocacy journalist, on nights and weekends**

An article on women and rape eventually helped convince a hospital administrator to implement greater security for female personnel on the night shift; another article on accepting personal responsibility for the direction one's life takes had helped build a fire under an old friend from graduate school: she finally stopped dithering around and filed her dissertation. A more recent article, "Save A Life, Save The World," which dealt, in part, with *Schindler's List* (both Keneally's novel and Spielberg's film) and the incalculable value of making a difference in even a single human life, brought me my first and only fan letter.

There have been the bad times, of course, mostly when we were shorter than usual of money or staff. I remember one meeting in particular, several years ago, when only Skeet Floyd and I showed up, and we discussed, with great seriousness, shutting down the paper. We didn't want to do that--at that point, we were a year and a half away from the *Post Amerikan*'s 20th Anniversary issue. I must confess, I cried a tear or two on Phoebe's shoulder that night.

## Crawling towards the millennium

Nothing lasts forever, or so they say, but somehow the *Post Amerikan*, like the Energizer Bunny, just keeps on going, and going, and going, despite the most absurd, occasional if internecine, squabbles and personality clashes. Just when we think that it's time to shut the paper down, it springs back to life. So here we are, two years past the 20th Anniversary issue and into the 200th issue. Could the *Post* actually help ring in the millennium?

I hope so. Institutions such as the *Post Amerikan* can make all the difference in a community like Bloomington-Normal. When I first moved to Central Illinois from Southern California to take a job, I'd expected a real culture shock. Affordable rent, air that never got truly fetid during a smog alert, freeways clear and free-flowing, the way God intended them. But there was also the rural isolation that I expected would magnify intolerance of all kinds--racism, homophobia, sexism, etc. And I'd been warned that George Lincoln Rockwell, the founder of the American Nazi Party, had set up its national headquarters in Bloomington.

## The end of civilization as I knew it?

After accepting the job offer from ISU, I'd taken the train down from Chicago, where I'd been attending a NEH Summer Seminar for College Teachers, to look over the town, find an apartment, set up a bank account, I stopped off Coffee World Coffeehouse. The red boxes out front, bearing the legend "Post Amerikan" gave me quite a start. My hands actually shook slightly as I popped in a quarter. What was this, a Klan paper? What kind of place would I be living in now? I'd just turned down an invitation to see "Betrayed," a Debra Winger vehicle, that had just opened in Bloomington-Normal that weekend. (Winger plays an FBI agent assigned to infiltrate a white-supremacist, paramilitary organization in rural Iowa, run by farmer Tom Berenger.) All my worst fears, about Bloomington-Normal would have been exacerbated if I had gone to see "Betrayed." Now, fear and loathing I thought chimerical seemed poised to become reality.

Imagine my relief after I actually started leafing through the pages of the *Post Amerikan*. I'd forgotten about the leftist '70s conceit of spelling "Amerika" with a "k" rather than a "c" to underscore our country's historic racism. Clearly, this was no racist rag, and all my worst anxieties were, for the moment, assuaged. I knew then and there that as long as the *Post Amerikan* is around, I'd always be able to live, even if just a little bit, in that moment.

--Dr. Attitude



Reprinted from past issue





# Our Bicentennial Quiz!

*o.k. kiddies - the following quiz was compiled by SF and towanda! (who else, ha!) who, by the way, were quite amused by some of the stuff we saw in 199 past issues of the Post. Here's some historical tidbits we dug up.*

*The answers are located on another page in this issue. Hey, no peeking and no cheating!*

1. The *Post Amerikan* helped to close the doors of this shady rental agency.

- a. Tinervan
- b. Home Rentals
- c. Apartments, Inc.
- d. Twin City Realty

2. In 1982, the *PA* accused this *Pantagraph* writer of "suffering from a failure of imagination."

3. Complete the following: "If she's Ms. Hippie, who was that other \_\_\_\_\_."

4. Which of the following was not a pen name used by past *Post* writers.

- a. Skeet Floyd
- b. Horny Dilemma
- c. Dolly Dumpster
- d. Peppermint Patty

5. A *Post* photographer shot a picture of this person being arrested at the mall for distributing anti-shopping leaflets?

- a. the Tooth Fairy
- b. Santa Claus
- c. the Easter Bunny
- d. Ms. Hippie

6. What Bloomington woman's arrest for killing her abusive husband caused a heated debate among *PA* members, many of whom left the newspaper as a result of their disagreements?

8. Which *Post* writer received complaints for writing too many gay related articles?

- a. Ferdydurke
- b. Ike & Tina
- c. Peter Doubt
- d. LVD

9. Which band never played at a *PA* benefit?

- a. Toxic Shock
- b. Bloody Discharge
- c. Jesus on a Ten Speed
- d. The Mysterious Fat Man

10. This Postie sought out embarrassing products of our society for her "Plastification Award" series

- a. Dr. Attitude
- b. ISIS
- c. Virginia Girly
- d. Phoebe Caulfield

11. This (since closed) gay bar in B/N used to advertise in the *Post*.

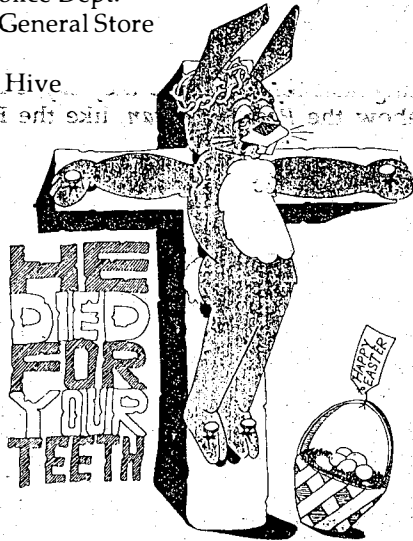
12. Our first plea for help.

- a. June 1983
- b. Feb. 1976
- c. Sept. 1973
- d. Dec. 1991

13. This business has never advertised in the *PA*.

- a. Normal Police Dept.
- b. The Joint General Store
- c. Hi-De-Ho
- d. The Book Hive

*transform the business*



14. What local B/N church threatened a boycott of all businesses who carried the *Post* as a result of this cover?

- a. Grace United Methodist
- b. Our Redeemer Lutheran
- c. Epiphany Catholic
- d. Calvary Baptist

15. *Post* censored in this Illinois prison.



**Come play basketball and make good music with the home team!**



16. And just what was meant by that basketball motiff in the Divinyl Madness Records ads?

17. What business drew criticism for running sexist advertising in the *Post*?

- a. Man-ding-go's
- b. Divinyl Madness
- c. Yah-ta-hey
- d. Mother Murphy's

18. Early pressure from Posties helped to dethrone this corrupt ISU president.

- a. Lloyd Watkins
- b. Ronald McDonald
- c. David Berlo
- d. Robert Bone

19. Cost of the first issue

- a. 10¢
- b. 25¢
- c. 15¢
- d. 5¢

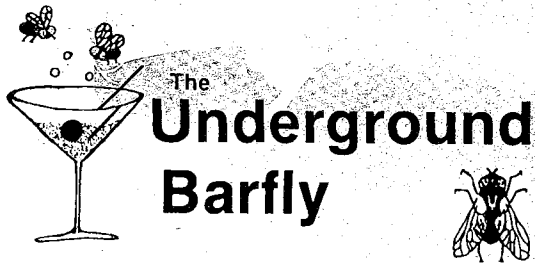
20. During the early-mid 80's, LVD produced the comic strip, "My Sister the Punk Rocker." What happened to Jill and Kat in the end?

- a. Both sisters met wonderful men, settled down, and become certified yuppies.
- b. Kat left town to become manager of CBGB's in New York City, Jill stayed.
- c. Jill and Kat were killed off in an mysterious explosion.
- d. Their future was never resolved.

\* BONUS \*

What was the exact date the first issue of the *Post Amerikan* appeared?

\_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_



7. Who wrote the "Underground Barfly" - a review of eating/drinking establishments in B/N?

- a. Ferdydurke and Balrog
- b. Phoebe Caulfield
- c. Stella and Blanche
- d. Lucy and Ethel

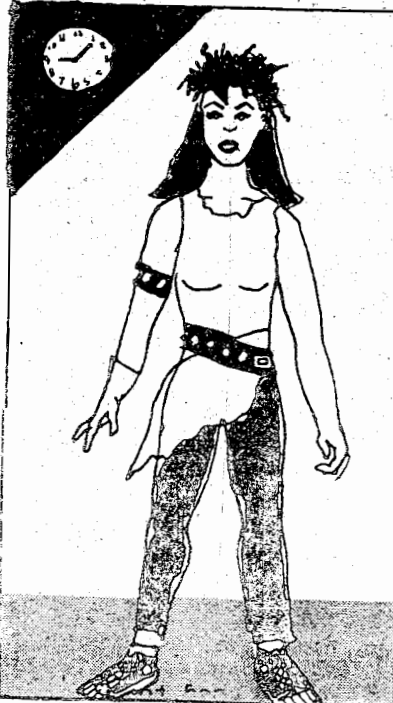




LIFE IS FULL OF ADVENTURES, TEARS, LAUGHTER, SORROWS AND JOYS... HEAVEN KNOWS KATIE AND I HAD CAUSED EACH OTHER ENOUGH SORROW AND THE TIME HAD COME TO TIP THE SCALES WITH LOVE AND LAUGHTER! MUCH TO MY RELIEF, KAT WAS WILLING TO FORGIVE AND FORGET... AND I WAS READY TO ACCEPT HER AS THE ENDEARING PUNK SHE WAS, BUT LITTLE DID I SUSPECT THAT I WOULD BE LED TO HEARTBREAK BY...

# MY SISTER, the PUNK ROCKER

SURE, CHAD STEVENS WAS MY SPECIAL GUY, BUT HE HADN'T BEEN RESPONDING TO ME IN A VERY "ATTENTIVE" WAY, SO... BEING A BUSINESS MAJOR HAD ACQUAINTED ME WITH THE PHENOMENON OF "SUPPLY AND DEMAND", AND WHAT GOOD ARE COLLEGE COURSES IF YOU CAN'T APPLY THEM TO LIFE SITUATIONS? SO...







# Our first year--how it all began

It had casual, swollen lettering for a masthead, a marijuana leaf for a symbol, fifteen cents for a price and this motto: "Man (sic) is Descended from Guerillas." Neither masthead, leaf, motto, nor price were to remain after five issues. The paper and its name, though, were to stick around awhile.

The first issue of the Post Amerikan came out on April 3, 1972, the day it came back from its printer (a print co-op in Champaign that has since gone the way of a lot of early seventies co-ops). Produced by members of the ISU community (faculty member Rex Rexford wrote most of the first issue's articles), the premiere P-A issue sold out on campus in only two days.

"That was perhaps the height of freak identity on campus," Chuck Willer, an early Post worker recalls, "probably three years behind the rest of the country. We sold almost a thousand copies of the paper just by hawking to students on the quad."

Much of the Post's early material came out of this sense of freak identity. In the opening issue's eight pages appeared: "Rock vs. Computer" (a criticism of computerized rock station WBNQ-FM), "May Day Is J-Day" (a call for massive public dope smoke-ins), and a record review. There was also a report on the protest spurred by then Secretary of Defense Mel Laird's dinner appearance at Bloomington's Scottish Rite Temple. Title of the last article: "Laird Eats It." A two-page centerspread poster rounded the issue out.

"Will B-N support its own 'underground' publication?" the issue's opening editorial asked. "The Post-Amerikan is not certain of that question, but we have enough confidence that the answer is 'yes' to begin a community newspaper that will be published on a bi-weekly basis, even during the summer."

The early P-A was far from a community paper, however. Its strong university ties kept it school-oriented--all of its staff were either faculty, student or married to faculty or student. But it had hopes.

It would take time to come close to realizing those hopes, though. In the meantime, issue two came out, with a faculty member's three-page diatribe against the educational system (and ISU's teacher education program in particular), a reprint article condemning sociology (that was as boring as it sounds), another two-page poster, the first installment of a bizarre serial entitled "Captain Commie Ciller," and a cartoon condemnation of local group Citizens for Decency and their campaign against stag films on campus. That cartoon was the first to appear in the P-A by Bill Sherman, whose scratchy, half-formed work was to dominate the paper's graphics for much of the early years.

Several anti-war reprints appeared in that second issue, and they signalled the thrust of the paper's next two issues. Members of Concerned Students Union, a loose-knit group of ISU radicals, planned a series of spring anti-war activities (right at the start of

Nixon's big bombing push in Vietnam), and the Post worked to publicize these protests--as well as the controversies surrounding them.

Issue three, also, contained the P-A's first articles on the women's movement: a review of the Chicago Women's Liberation Rock Band, an article on ISU's new Women's Center entitled "Women's Center Trucks Along" (remember trucking?), and "Women Protest Yourselves."



But many freaks and radicals at the time, including those associated with the P-A, had ambivalent (to put it nicely) attitudes towards the women's movement, and these articles almost didn't make it into the paper. It would be almost a year, in fact, before the paper and its staff actively embraced feminist articles. Before that would come a series of controversies that would fragment the paper's staff.

Other controversies, though, were of primary concern during those first issues. Rexford, dissatisfied with the Concerned Students Union and suspicious of their (non-violent) campus protest, was to write a condemnation of campus anti-war activity. After writing it, and submitting it for the fourth issue, he resigned from the paper.

That left the Post without its foremost backer and writer. Willer and Sherman, the latter fresh from a tenure as editor of ISU's student paper, stepped in and pulled together the fourth issue. Most of issue four's articles were written with speed and speculation. One article, entitled "Kops," for instance, was little more than a series of nasty comments about the Bloomington city calendar's blurb describing its police department..

Issue four was also the last bi-weekly Post.

Number five was advertised as the first monthly issue as well as the paper's first free issue. The paper has remained somewhat monthly, but it was free only once. Its cover was a parody of an ISU Vidette collage cover--certainly somewhat of a mistake for a paper that kept insisting it wanted to branch out into the community--and its contents were similar to issue four's: anti-war reprints, music and movie reviews, and theoretical pieces. The Post's minuscule staff was more concerned with getting a paper out than with content changes.

But with its July issue, number six, the Post Amerikan finally took a step towards its long-professed goal of being a community paper. Until then, the paper had been loosely structured around its one or two "editors," its articles haphazardly sought out among friends and acquaintances. But now steps were being taken toward building a co-operative staff. The paper's first staff recruiting meeting was called.

While much of the staff that arose from this meeting was still university-linked (and basically friends with each other), a change was heralded in the July issue with an editorial written "from an ex-editor's desk": "This issue is the first one comprised by new and outside people, a larger group than before. Hopefully, it is better rounded. We hope to keep it so."

The Post's masthead had changed, and the paper cost a dime. Its monthly issues started being put together more consciously, its staff holding meetings just to argue over content and theory. Its cover story, celebrating the new look, left campus and concerned itself with the forming of a new community food co-op.

It would take some time for the paper to shed its university image, however. For one thing, it was still burdened with more theory than news. (Issue seven contained, though, perhaps the first real Post-style local story: a report of an adult bookstore raid written by paper newcomer Mark Silverstein, who would become one of the paper's most visible reporters.) The staff was new and unused to putting together a real monthly community paper.

But it was on its way.

--D. Colt (reprinted from P-A, vol. 6, #1, with revisions by Bill Sherman)

Post Amerikan, vol. 11, #1



April 1982 page 9



# News From Voice

## LEFTY FOLLIES VARIETY SHOW

It's time once again for the Annual Lefty Follies Variety Show and Harvest Moon Dance. This year's gala will be held on November 5, 1994, at 7:00 p.m. with the dance to follow. As always, participants will determine which of the two categories they wish to be judged in, talent or talent impaired. We have done away with the entry fee, instead everyone attending and/or participating will need to purchase a ticket, \$5.00 for the entire evening's festivities. If you'd like to be in the show just complete the form below and mail it to Voice for Choice, P.O. Box 905, Bloomington, IL 61702-0905. Entry forms must be received by Nov. 1, 1994.

Yes I want to participate in the Follies!

Name of Act: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Category: ☐ Talent ☐ Talent impaired

(Talent acts should be no longer than 15 minutes, talent impaired acts should be no longer than 10 minutes)

Will you need any special equipment? If so, what? (we will try to accommodate your needs but have limited resources, so unfortunately we can't promise anything except a tape player and access to a piano).

Mail this form to Voice for Choice, P.O. Box 905, Bloomington, IL, 61702-0905. We will call you to arrange a rehearsal time for your act on Nov. 5.

All proceeds from this event go to benefit Voice for Choice and the Rape Crisis Center.

This is a safe space.

Anti-choicers have announced plans to boycott the French manufacturer of the abortion pill RU-486 and its U.S. subsidiaries who are arranging to bring the pill into the U.S. The groups targeted by the boycott are Roussel Uclaf, Hoechst AG, and two U.S. companies, Hoechst Roussel, a drug company, and Hoechst Celanese, a chemical company.

The four companies sell a variety of products including prescription medicines, polyesters, and bulk chemicals that U.S. manufacturers use to make other products such as detergents.

The anti-choicers have not come out with a product list yet, but said they will release one soon that will be broadcast by "pastors who will, yes, stand up in the pulpits to say these companies are responsible for bringing the death pill to America," said Southern Baptist convention officer James Smith.

Source: Off Our Backs

Los Angeles artist and social critic Ed Massey has rented vacant storefronts in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, Chicago, New York and Miami, in which he created a rape scene he entitled Morality/Mortality. The scene depicts a partially clothed woman crawling toward the window, her clothes strewn about her in the apparent aftermath of a rape, and two naked men hung from the ceiling from ropes tied around their genitals. The artist's note on the work states that: "The frequent and undeniable horror of sexual assault dictates that the sculpture be exhibited boldly, forthrightly, and without apology... Few people outside law enforcement officers ever see the immediate aftermath of a sexual assault." He said that the scene could be interpreted as a revenge fantasy in the woman's mind or as a way to raise the issue of what should be done with sexual predators."

The display was largely funded by Peg Yorkin, a Los Angeles feminist activist who gave \$10 million to the Feminist Majority Foundation in 1991.

There were protests over the exhibit in Santa Monica by a group of neighborhood residents. The Washington D.C. display was vandalized by someone who spray painted the part of the window in front of the men only, leaving the woman still visible. As Kirsten Swisher, a Georgetown university law student commented, "It is interesting that they left the victimization of the woman exposed."

Source: Off Our Backs

## FAMILY PLANNING IN ZIMBABWE

Zimbabwe is a leader among African nations in the area of contraception. Using civil servants as missionaries of family planning the government works to distribute contraceptives and family planning information.

In Zimbabwe the number of children women bear over their lifetime has declined, slightly, but steadily. As a result, the bottom line - the growth of the population - has slowed from catastrophic to dreadful.

The country even has a small new export industry: it sells wooden penises to family planning programs in other African countries for

use pills although, many are now switching over to injections of Depo Provera every three months; the Government is also promoting condom use to contain a ravaging AIDS epidemic. Contraceptives are free to low-income families, which means almost everyone in rural areas.

The most outspoken critic of Zimbabwe's family planning efforts is the church, the Roman Catholic church. In August, the country's bishops issued a pastoral letter to all believers denouncing the population conference in Cairo.

The church in Zimbabwe has set up a counter program to encourage "natural family planning," meaning timing sex to avoid the period of ovulation. This alternative is sold partly with the claim that it enables parents to choose the gender of their baby with certainty - a promise experts say is very misleading but very attractive in a society where male children are still prized.

Source: New York Times

Abortion providers in Pennsylvania have found a way around that state's attempt to restrict access to abortion. The state requires that "informed consent" be given by women prior to an abortion, this means that any woman choosing an abortion must listen to information mandated by the state on fetal development and pregnancy options. Clinics in Pennsylvania are providing this information via taped message over the telephone. Anti-choicers demonstrating the proper use of condoms.

The program's modest success has come despite strong and loud opposition from the Roman Catholic Church, despite a budget squeezed by an economic austerity program and despite critics in the male-dominated Parliament, in which the typical member has seven children. Zimbabwe's aggressive pursuit of smaller families is all the more striking given that until independence in 1980, the party of Robert Mugabe, now President, opposed birth control programs as a white plot, a form of genocide.

In 1980 the average woman in Zimbabwe had 6.7 children. By 1988 36% of Zimbabwe's women were using contraceptives. Most women are furious since their intent with this legislation was to require women to make two trips to the clinic, thereby making abortion an even more difficult choice. So far there is no word on whether or not the state's Attorney General will interpret the law to mean that the information must be delivered in person.

Source: New York Times

## CATHOLIC MEN AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

After listening to the NPR stories about the population conference in Cairo, listening to various and sundry priests, bishops and cardinals insist that the patriarchal Catholic Church has the right to control women's lives, we are moved to speak.

It has occurred to us that, those men who are members of the Catholic Church, who claim to care about women's rights, including reproductive rights, should be doing something. Unfortunately we don't see it. We know many men who are Catholic, say they are pro-choice, say they believe in women's rights, and yet they continue to go to mass every week, contribute their dollars towards a patriarchy that oppresses women in the church (and actively seeks to expand that oppression to women everywhere) while exploiting their labor in an effort to keep the church running smoothly. Within the Catholic Church women are good enough to do the work but are not equal, not considered among the chosen, and are denied positions of influence and power.

Catholic men who truly believe in a woman's right to choose, who truly believe that women are equal would seem to have two choices. Leave the church, or fight from within it.

## Rape Crisis Center of McLean County

We're a non-profit volunteer group whose main purpose is to offer assistance and support to victims of sexual assault and their friends and families.

Female and male volunteers answer your calls and are available for crisis assistance, information and speaking engagements. You may request to speak only with female volunteers.

If you want to talk to one of us  
**Call PATH 827-4005**  
and ask for the  
**RAPE CRISIS CENTER**



# For Choice

Unfortunately most do neither, thereby reinforcing the patriarchy and oppression of women through their silence and inactivity. Men who truly care about women will fight for women's rights within the church as well. Any man not willing to actively fight is our oppressor.

On May 27, Justice Clarence Thomas hosted and officiated the marriage of misogynist talk-show host Rush Limbaugh to Marta Fiszgerald. The fact that Thomas would affiliate publicly with the likes of the "combatively conservative" Limbaugh is reminiscent of how the justice's confirmation ordeal with Anita Hill still governs his friendships and loyalties.

Perhaps his close friendship with overtly sexist and homophobic Limbaugh also alludes to what many feminists have thought all along: Anima told the truth.

## CHRISTIAN COALITION MEMBER RUNS FOR COUNTY BOARD

Well they've done it again. Those wacky kids from the religious right have another candidate running in a local election. This time they received the help of the Republican Party. The Republican Party slated Christian Coalition member Lee Newcom to run for McLean County Board. Newcom claims that his religious beliefs have nothing to do with his desire to run for office. We sincerely doubt that since the Christian Coalition has stated the taking over of local and state governments as one of their goals.

Dave Keim is running against Newcom on the Democratic ticket. Keim is a pro-choice, reasonable and intelligent man. We encourage those of you living in this district to help elect Dave Keim, if not we're all going to be real sorry. Don't forget, the Christian Coalition ran a candidate for Normal City Council last year, he was defeated. Jim Fischer ran for Unit 5 School Board and won, he is also a Christian Coalition member.

Don't expect somebody else to preserve your rights, if you're not already doing something, get off your ass and get busy, the rest of us are getting tired of protecting your rights.

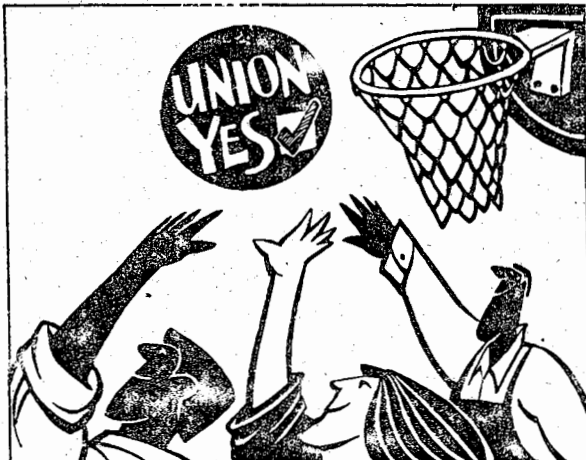
## ELECTION NEWS

Well we already mentioned that the Republican Party slated a Christian Coalition member to run for the county board.

Maybe we ought to mention who the anti-choice and pro-choice candidates are. First there is Bill Brady. Unfortunately he is running unopposed.

Karen Schmidt, a strong proponent of women's rights, choice, health care reform, election reform and education is running against Dan Rutherford in the 87th House District race. Dan courted the Christian Coalition two years ago and now he's trying it again. Karen has received the endorsement of NOW, Americans for Democratic Action, Personal PAC, and the McLean County Human Rights Coalition. Her opponent is typically

endorsed by business. According to the Campaign for Better Healthcare in Champaign, Rutherford has a horrible record on healthcare and in fact the only group that supports him is the Illinois Health Care Association, a group of nursing home owners. Dan has also voted against the anti-strike breaker legislation, pay equity, the reasonable woman standard in cases of sexual harassment (most Republican women in the House voted for this, Dan didn't care), he voted in favor of the presumption of joint custody bill (even though the women in his party and domestic violence groups around the state opposed it, Dan didn't care). He has voted against higher worker safety standards and most other labor and woman related bills.



Karen Schmidt is pro-choice, she is an educator, a full time professor of Library Administration at the U of I, and the Director of Acquisitions for the U of I Library. In this capacity she supervises 30 employees and manages a 7 million dollar budget. Karen is married, her husband is an attorney, they have a son, Jacob. Karen entered the race because she was frustrated with her representation in the Illinois House and she is very concerned about education in Illinois.

Karen Schmidt believes that too many elected officials have forgotten that the point of elected office is public service, not political gain. To that end she is running a grassroots campaign focused on issues. Unfortunately local news media here and in Pontiac have ignored press releases sent and continue to find any way to print her opponents name. According to the FCC, equal time does not apply to print media.

If you would like to send a donation or volunteer for Karen's campaign please call 828-3108 or stop by Democratic Party Headquarters on Front St. in Bloomington.

Paul Alexander, Democrat, is running against Tom Ewing for the 15th Congressional District. Alexander is a former aide to Congressman George Sangmeister (don't fear Paul is much more liberal). Paul is pro-choice, Ewing is anti-choice. Paul supports healthcare reform, up

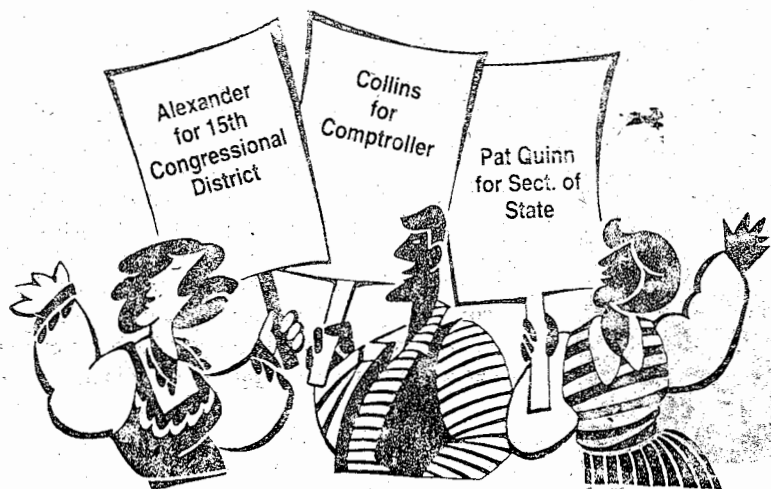


until this election year Ewing denied there was a problem. Paul will support legislation dealing with civil rights, human rights and women's rights. He supports the Brady Bill (Ewing opposed it). The only choice here is Paul Alexander for Congress.

In other state races Voice for Choice wants you to know that, although he claims to be pro-choice, in the past year Jim Edgar has sabotaged a number of pro-choice efforts, including having pro-choice bills stalled in committee to avoid having to sign them in an election year. He supports parental notification and has inappropriately intervened in issues involving children, their adoptive parents and their birth parents.

Dawn Clark Netsch is the stronger of the two candidates for governor on the issue of choice. Netsch has a strong pro-choice, pro-labor, pro-healthcare reform and pro-education voting record while in the Illinois House. As comptroller she has continued to confront Illinois' budget problems when no one else would mention them, including budget shortfalls, late payments and pension fund problems.

Al Hofeld is running for Attorney General on the Democratic ticket. Hofeld is the only pro-choice candidate in this race. His opponent, Ryan, a prosecutor out of Chicago, is presenting the office as a tough crime fighting office, this view of the Attorney General's office is fairly narrow. The issue of choice is important in this race as it is the Attorney General's office that enforces laws such as clinic access, parental notification, etc... We need a







# Continued

pro-choice Attorney General and Al Hofeld is a long time member of the Illinois Pro-Choice Alliance.

For Secretary of State, Patrick Quinn is the pro-choice candidate. While choice is not directly impacted by this office, this office is used as a springboard to higher offices. With that in mind we should remember that a pro-choice Secretary of State may someday be a candidate for Governor. George Ryan, the Republican incumbent is anti-choice and had a deplorable voting record on women's rights while he served in the Illinois legislature.

Earleen Collins is running for Comptroller. Senator Collins has been a strong advocate for reproductive rights while in the Illinois Senate, her opponent, Didrickson, has not been a strong advocate in the area of human women's rights or human rights.. Senator Collins has a long history of advocating on behalf of the rights of all people, her opponent does not. If elected, Earleen Collins will be the first African American woman elected to a Constitutional office in Illinois.

In the race for state Treasurer, Nancy Drew Sheehan, Democrat, has it hands down in the areas of women's rights, and advocating for human rights. Her opponent, Judy Baar Topinka is a dynamic speaker but has done nothing as far as we can tell to further the cause of women's equality.

Now you may have noticed that several of the offices we've mentioned seem to have little if anything to do with women's rights, reproductive rights, human rights, healthcare, education. You're right. However, it seems to us that, since these offices usually lead to higher office, it is important to recognize candidates with proven records in the area of human rights and to elect them to office of influence, even if that influence is indirect. Too often we ignore issues important to us in electing a candidate because the issue may not seem related. However, as we have seen time and time again, incumbency is difficult to challenge and once an individual is elected their campaign war chest grows. It becomes increasingly difficult to beat them regardless of the office they seek. By electing pro-choice, pro-woman candidates in every office we do ourselves and our children a big favor.

Researchers at the Harvard School of Public Health and the Center for Health Policy Studies in Washington, D.C., have released the findings of a recent study. According to the study, 20% of Americans have been attracted to someone of the same sex at some time since age 15.

The study found that between 6.2% and 20.8% of men and 3.3% and 17.8% of women could be considered "incidentally homosexual." The higher numbers are based on reported homosexual behavior or attraction since age 15. The lower estimates are based on reported same-sex sexual behavior during the previous five years.

"Our perspective is that sexual orientation isn't just a yes-no, heterosexual-homosexual (question), said David Wypij, a Harvard statistician and co-author of the study. "I think in most individuals there is some sort of range. You may be more heterosexual, you may be more homosexual."

The study is the first national study to look at the question of homosexual attraction. Source: JET

A new study gives preliminary indication that women electrical workers face a significantly higher risk of contracting and dying from breast cancer than women who work in other fields. Long term exposure to electromagnetic fields from electrical and telephone exchange equipment is the

suspected cause. Electromagnetic fields are small waves of radiation which are emitted from an electric current. However, the author of the study, Dana Loomis from the University of North Carolina, cautions that further research needs to be completed to make the connection more clear.

A potential explanation is the fact that electromagnetic fields stunt the brain's production of melatonin, a hormone. When melatonin levels fall, the body's output of the hormone estrogen rises. High levels of estrogen is one suggested risk factor behind breast cancer. Another possible explanation is exposure to polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), a type of carcinogenic chemical which used to be used in electrical insulation.

Women working as telephone installers, repairers and line workers, and as electricians and electrical engineers face a 28%-75% (depending on the level of exposure in the job) greater risk of coming down with breast cancer. Some non-electrical jobs, such as keyboard data enterers, computer equipment operators and programmers, and telephone operators - fields whose workers are predominantly female - also expose the workers to small electromagnetic fields. These women do not face an increased risk, according to the study, because the levels of radiation are not as intense as the exposure received by electrical workers.

No recommendations have been made yet about how to protect electrical workers at risk, until more research has been done to pinpoint the cause. But women are definitely keeping their eye on this statistic and plan to push the research into high-gear. "We want the research on this accelerated because there's no time to waste," emphasizes Marcia Love, a representative of the Communications Workers of America. Source: Off Our Backs.

In Pensacola, Florida, a judge has agreed to let Paul J. Hill, the man accused of killing a doctor and his escort outside a Pensacola abortion clinic, represent himself in court on federal charges.

Judge Roger Vinson of Federal District Court said that he would allow Hill to represent himself in an Oct. 3 trial on charges of violating laws on firearms and the protection of abortion clinics.

The judge barred Hill and lawyers from speaking to the news media about the case, saying that pretrial publicity could bias potential jurors. In addition, he said he would sequester the jury.

Hill is charged in the July 29 shooting of Dr. John B. Britton and his escort, James H. Barrett, outside a Pensacola abortion clinic. June Barrett was wounded in the shooting.

Hill also faces trial on Jan. 30 in state court on charges of murder, attempted murder and shooting into an occupied vehicle.

Although Hill will defend himself in Federal court, Judge Vinson appointed a federal public defender, Roderick Vereen, to advise him. Mr. Vereen had been Hill's defense lawyer, but withdrew after Hill rejected a plan to offer an insanity defense.

Before he withdrew as Hill's lawyer, Vereen asked Judge Vinson to dismiss the Federal charges, saying Congress lacked the authority to pass the clinic protection law, the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act, because the violence at abortion clinics could not be considered interstate commerce. Judge Vinson dismissed that motion. Source: New York Times

A week after Mayor Richard Riordan declared a state of emergency in L.A. to allow needle exchanges to take place, the police said they were forced to arrest three people for illegally distributing clean syringes after neighborhood groups place them under citizens arrest.

Mayor Riordan's state of emergency was intended to bypass a state law outlawing drug

paraphernalia by instructing police officers to make enforcement of the law a low priority. But a dozen members of several Hollywood neighborhood groups placed three needle distributors under citizens' arrest and the police had no choice but to arrest them.

The three, members of a group called Clean Needles Now, were booked for investigation of possession of a hypodermic needle and were later released. They were ordered to appear in court on Oct. 5. The police confiscated about 100 syringes.

Members of Clean Needles Now vowed to continue distributing the needles in an effort to limit the spread of the AIDS virus. The neighborhood groups said the exchanges were attracting derelicts. Apparently if you live in Hollywood it is better to have people dying in the streets than exchanging needles.

Source: New York Times

Christian Coalition candidate Allen Quist, who sought the GOP nomination for governor in Minnesota lost in his bid. Despite this defeat, members of the Coalition were upbeat at their recent convention. "We are seeing the Christian Coalition rise to where God intends it to be in this nation - as one of the most powerful political forces in the history of America," said founder Pat Robertson.

Other prominent names attending the convention were William Bennett, Elizabeth Dole and Phil Gramm.

The Coalition announced that, for tax reasons, it cannot endorse candidates but it will be holding "Citizenship Sundays" on Sept. 25 and Oct. 2 at 60,000 participating churches in an attempt to register one million voters.

The Times even quoted Lee Newcom of Bloomington, IL (you remember, the county board candidate that says his religious beliefs have nothing to do with his seeking office) According to the Times Newcom lead an 82 member delegation from Illinois to the conference. He encouraged them to take part in workshops to discuss how to make practical political gains at the local level. Source: New York Times

## "I'm not registered to vote because voting is a waste of time."

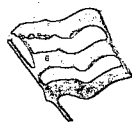
Yes, it's hard to vote for politicians who are less than ideal. Yes, there are a lot of politicians who are up for sale to the highest bidder. But if you don't vote, someone else will.

And "someone else" is the rich and powerful who profit the most from the Reagan/Bush administrations. They're all registered, and they will vote.

While most of the working class is catching hell trying to put food on our families' tables, the rich and powerful are finding new ways to screw us.

Protesting against unfair, corrupt politics by not voting is like protesting against unfair job conditions by staying home. You only hurt yourself.

**Register. And vote.**



# Judging Books By Their Covers



## The Beans of Egypt, Maine Carolyn Chute

For some odd reason, I'm captivated by white trash novels; Flannery O'Connor's short stories and Dorothy Allison's Bastard out of North Carolina are great examples of this genre.

Carolyn Chute's novel doesn't let me down.

Earlene Pomerleau lives with her daddy in a plain-o ranch house in Egypt, Maine. From their picture window they can see the exploits of their despised neighbors, the Beans. The Beans are your stereotypical white trash - the men are gun toting bullies, while the women are always barefoot and always pregnant. Egypt is just crawling with Beans.

Earlene, who once shunned the Beans' way of life, becomes inexplicably drawn to their ways, and over a course of heartbreaking events, finds that she has more in common with them than she'd like to admit.

A movie version of this book is expected to be released in October, starring Martha Plimpton as Earlene Pomerleau.



## Coffee Will Make You Black April Sinclair

You know that saying, "don't judge a book by its cover", well, I do. I first fell in love with this book's cover, then with the story's entertaining main character, Jean "Stevie" Stevenson.

The story places Stevie in Chicago's Southside in the mid to late 60s. Stevie is basically a bookworm who aspires to be a cool/tough chick like her classmate, Carla Perkins. Stevie and Carla's hilarious coming of age experiences take place during the novel's 5 year span - from the spring of 1965 to the spring of 1970.

April Sinclair writes honestly about such topics as first periods, crushes, and family ordeals. But she also adds interesting historic events like the Black Power movement and Stevie's realization that "black is beautiful!" all from the perspective of a smart, funny and sometimes confused adolescent character. This book is both a history lesson and entertaining story all wrapped up in a great package.

## Understand This Jervey Tervalon

I really liked the angle the author took in narrating this account of everyday life in Inner city, U.S.A.

Each chapter is told from the point of view of several main characters. This changes constantly throughout the book, allowing the reader to look inside each character's mind as they deal with the depressing realities of life in South Central L.A.

The story revolves around two characters, Francois and his girlfriend, Margot. Both seniors at Bolt High, they are relying on their individual talents to take them far away from their 'hood. They soon realize that their destiny is controlled by circumstances beyond their reach. In a world of despair and crime, Tervalon gives us characters struggling for integrity and self-respect despite all odds.

## The Bean Trees Barbara Kingsolver

Taylor Greer grew up poor in rural Kentucky with two goals: to avoid pregnancy and to get away. She succeeds in both when she finally buys a car and heads out West after graduating. Motherhood catches up to her shortly, when, by an odd set of circumstances, she becomes the guardian of an abandoned girl, she affectionately calls Turtle. Taylor eventually settles in Tucson, Arizona, where she and Turtle become part of an eclectic circle of friends.

Turtle, who in her young life, has had more than her share of pain, becomes a healing force in all of their lives. This kid is so cute, I actually wish she'd come alive so I could give her a big 'ole hug.

This is an optimistic, warm and funny novel about love and friendship, abandonment and belonging and the joy of finding simple treasures in the most unexpected places.

## Pigs in Heaven Barbara Kingsolver

Taylor and Turtle's saga continues in Barbara Kingsolver's Pigs in Heaven. Turtle, now 6, witnesses a freak accident during a vacation at Hoover Dam. The result of her heroism and ensuing national exposure, attempts to drastically change the course of her life, when a lawyer from the Cherokee Nation discovers Turtle was illegally adopted.

Fearing the Nation will take Turtle away, Taylor leaves Tucson, and her cool boyfriend, Jax, and goes on the lam. They meet up with her mother, Alice, and a barbie doll wanna-be (appropriately named Barbie), in Las Vegas.

Alice decides to depart the group and visit her cousin in Heaven, Oklahoma which, conveniently happens to be near the headquarters of the Cherokee nation, and home of the pursuing lawyer, Annawake Fourkiller.

Alice's interactions with members of the Cherokee nation lead her to some startling discoveries about her own ancestry, Turtle's, and the ties that bind them together.

Barbara Kingsolver gives us another heartbreaking, yet compromising novel about the lengths we go for that thing called love.



## The Revolution of Little Girls Blanche McCrary Boyd

Another great cover, another interesting literary composition. In this novel, Blanche McCrary Boyd tells the story of Ellen Burns, a product of a dysfunctional 1960s southern family.

Yeah, there's your usual romance, sex, childhood stories and self-destruction, but what really sets this book apart is the way Boyd presents the story.

After I finished reading the first chapter, I knew the beginning, end and whole plot. What's next, I asked myself.

I was delighted with the results. Each chapter told the complete story about a significant event in Ellen's life, from start to finish and how that one event affected her whole life. It also described how she came to terms with them.

Hey - put down that wallet!

All of these books are free - at your local library. If it's not in, or not in the collection, put it on inter-library loan or reserve, 'kay? You've got to eat too ya know.

-towanda!

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# Join the TV Nation - A Fun Show

If there's one mark of contemporary American unity, it's our allegiance to the electronic video box, which, even with all its myriad cable variations, draws us together.

Television has always been a "friendly" medium, worming its way into our hearts, homes and habits. Yet for all its familiarity, we still view the tube with a certain cynical contempt, knowing it rarely delivers its promises.

Take that cynical tinge, mix it with familiarity, and you've got the winning ingredient for Michael Moore's new show, "TV Nation." Moore, a Flint, Michigan native, is famous for his independent film "Roger and Me," a one-man quest searching for General Motor's chairman Roger Smith, seeking answers to Flint's industrial destruction.

Former underground journalist Moore brings that same tongue-in-cheek, wink to the viewer familiarity to television, with hilarious results. It's a mad mix of Charles Kuralt's neighborly friendliness with Hunter Thompson's ragged edge.

Here's a guy we've seen in every neighborhood, in his trademark ragged 90s everyman outfit, Detroit Tigers ballcap, floppy sneakers and ample army surplus field jacket, asking life's most important questions on prime time.

Can the chairman of Ford Motor change his own car's oil? Have white Bronco sales soared in post-O.J. L.A.? Is Bill Clinton really the "Man from Hope," or a product of party town Hot Springs, Arkansas?

TV Nation quickly sets its mood; opening segments are a kaleidoscope of familiar TV images, from 50s commercials to the Kennedy assassination to Vietnam air strikes. These

sometimes nostalgic views are the viewer's passwords, stylized images from another era that mark membership in the TV nation.

The real charm is Moore, friendly, out-going, and like all great comics, the target of his own humor. Moore's show gets its zing by including the viewer, along with himself, in the camera's power.

Moore gathers his responses, not just through his own charm, but because there's a camera trailing. Television is our intimate exchange, and Moore uses this, letting everyone participate, almost saying, "Hey folks, look at me. I can do this, you can too!" These techniques gather great natural interviews, real-life vignettes that are fun and character revealing.

Moore's progressive politics are present, but not in a weighty, serious way. "Health Care Olympics," based on last winter's international sports fever, featured medical Team USA competing against Team Cuba and Team Canada. The race was on to see who could deliver the best health care the quickest and cheapest. Bob Costas provide the appropriate sports chatter, as three foot injuries were closely followed. The stakes were close, the health care comparable, but Team USA was sunk in the final tabulation. As the Cuban laid smiling on his recovery bed with a new leg cast, his charge was a big nada. The Canadian had to pay \$15 to rent crutches. But the Florida hospital's accounting wizards crunched their numbers, sending the American with a sprained ankle, the least serious injury, home for a whopping \$450.70. Nice try, Team USA, but you finished third, as the scene faded with Team Canada in their hospital scrubs, waving the Maple Leaf.

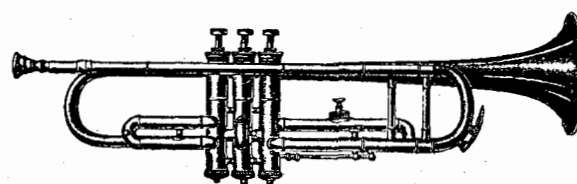
Moore tweaks corporate power, but not with 60 Minutes-type exposes. Instead, its small laughs, inside jokes, showing how deeply the corporate presence seeps into daily life. A recent evening was "Product Placement Night," poking fun at the current scramble to feature consumer goods in film and TV. Moore took long drinks from popular beverages, turning the can to show the label, winking at the viewer. In later interviews he was holding a box of Potato Buds. It was a non-sequitur expose of the corporate game, just enough to make you think twice when certain beverages are downed on screen.

Another segment found him roaming the Capital's halls, giving donations, seeking favor for important legislation -- a bill for a "TV Nation Day" national holiday. Funny, plus good insight on how corporate lobbyists control the political agenda.

Will General Electric allow Michael Moore to continue filling subsidiary NBC's airwaves every Tuesday night? Hard to say, as the show is limited to seven sessions. It might be another rare flash in the pan of TV brilliance. Sustaining such an involved hour would be hard work, but certainly a riveting and hilarious half-hour show is possible. For as long as NBC and GE tolerate Moore, tune in for some laughs, particularly at corporate America's expense, and join the TV Nation.

Michael G. Matejka

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## ISU Music Dept. Fall Schedule

**Sunday, October 16**  
Symphonic Band  
Braden Auditorium @ 3:00 pm

**Tuesday, October 18**  
Honors Recital  
Kemp Recital Hall @ 3:00 pm

**Tuesday, October 18**  
Paul Borg, Piano  
Kemp Recital Hall @ 8:00 pm

**Saturday, October 22**  
Band Day  
\$ Hancock Stadium @ 8:00 am

**Sunday, October 23**  
ISU Symphony Orchestra & Civic Chorale  
Braden Auditorium @ 3:00 pm

**Monday, October 24**  
H.S. Choral Arts & Orchestra Festival Concert  
Stroud Auditorium (U-High) @ 7:00 pm

**Tuesday, October 25**  
Just Brass  
Kemp Recital Hall @ 8:00 pm

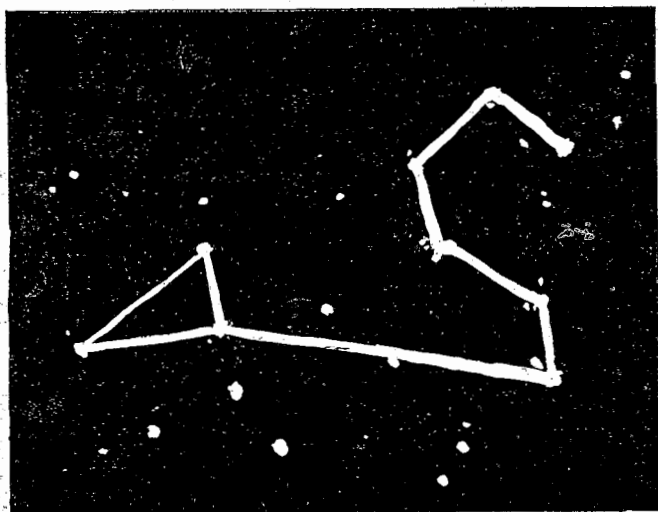
**Friday, October 28**  
University Choir & Encore!  
Kemp Recital Hall @ 8:00 pm

**Saturday, October 29**  
Bandarama  
\$ Braden Auditorium @ 7:30 pm

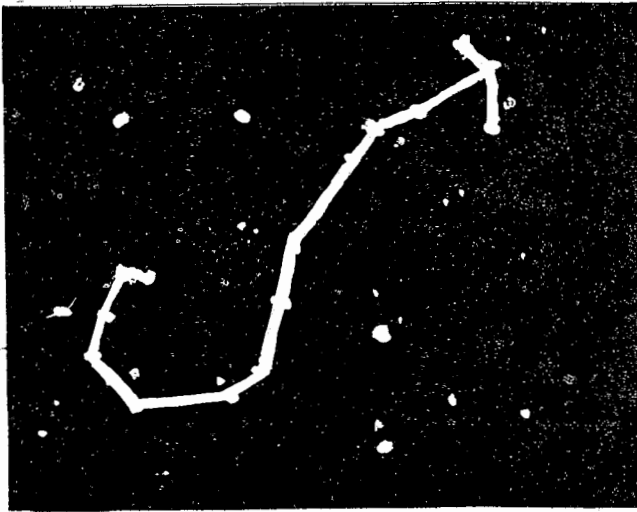
**Sunday, October 30**  
Concert Choir & Madrigals  
St. John's Lutheran Church @ 3:00 pm

**Monday, October 31**  
Halloween Concert ISU Jazz Band  
Kemp Recital Hall @ 11:00 pm

\$= admission charge  
for more information, please contact the ISU



Leo



Scorpio



The constellation formerly known as Prince





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# Famous vegetarians

OCT/NOV 1994